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SOVIET UNION POLITICAL AFFAIRS

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GORBACHEV ATTENDS OPENING OF 6TH CONFERENCE OF RSFSR ARTISTS

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 May 87 pp 1, 5

[TASS Report: "In Step with the Times--the 6th Congress of RSFSR Artists"]

[Text] The method of socialist realism, the most progressive creative method, promotes a profound depiction of the truth of life and the changes taking place in it. Loyal to socialist realism and inspired by party-mindedness and the purposefulness of renewal, the masters of our multinational Soviet visual arts are striving to create works on a high artistic level with great emotional impact. The artists of Russia, who have become actively involved in the current restructuring of society, take this position.

The delegates to the 6th Congress of RSFSR Artists are conducting an exacting, demanding discussion of the results of their labor and outlining ways to further improve creative work. The congress opened on 19 May in Moscow, in the Great Kremlin Palace.

The delegates and guests greeted comrades M. S. Gorbachev, V. I. Vorotnikov, A. A. Gromyko, Ye. K. Ligachev, N. I. Ryzhkov, M. S. Solomentsev, V. M. Chebrikov, E. A. Shevardnadze, P. N. Demichev, V. I. Dolgikh, B. N. Yeltsin, N. V. Talyzin, A. N. Yakovlev, A. P. Biryukov, A. I. Lukyanov, G. P. Razumovskiy, and I. V. Kapitonov with applause.

Also in the presidium were prominent figures in the visual arts and representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations and labor collectives.

The agenda read: accountability reports of the board of directors of the RSFSR Artists Union and its auditing commission; election of the governing bodies of the creative union; and election of delegates to the 7th Congress of USSR Artists

The congress was opened by D. A. Shmarinov, Peoples Artist of the USSR and one of the oldest masters of the visual arts.

V. M. Sidorov, first secretary of the union board of directors, presented the accountability report of the RSFSR Artists Union

The party and state have adopted a determined policy of restructuring all spheres of our society's life, including the cultural sphere, he said. The revolutionary ideas of renewal have swept up the broad masses of the people and become the moving force in concrete, constructive actions filled with creativity, initiative, and innovation. These changes are more and more broadly entering artistic life; they are posing pressing problems of a fundamental refinement of the creative process and organization of all our work. It is essential to work out a general line for further activity of the RSFSR Artists Union, one that is most appropriate to the challenges of restructuring.

The decisions of the January 1987 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee direct us to this. It calls on artists to create talented, truthful works that reflect our reality in all its multiple facets and majesty and resolutely oppose the ideological-cultural aggression of imperialism, which is trying to impose false values alien to humanism on our people, above all young people.

Serious tasks are defined in the party decree on further development of the visual arts and intensifying their role in communist indoctrination of working people. This is essentially a program not just for artistic assimilation of contemporary life in the visual arts, but also for creative and aesthetic transformation of the entire urban and rural milieu in which we are to participate, together with the Architects Union and the newly formed Designers Union. It is a program for art to enter further into the everyday lives of Soviet people.

Cultural transformation of Siberia and the Far East should have a special place in this extremely important, all-people's work.

There is no doubt that the main thing in the current phase is to increase the role of the visual arts in ideological indoctrination of Soviet people. We have always considered it our sacred civic duty, the speaker stressed, to give the people truthful artistic images that carry the lofty ideas of socialist restructuring of life, the great ideas of the fight for peace, and the ideas of positive morality and the joy of constructive labor. In this connection the union is facing the challenge of consolidating all its artistic forces, everything talented and good, on creating the highly ideological, realistic art that the people need. Unfortunately, however, we must state that at the present time we are not yet fully ready for this consolidation. Our most important task is to achieve it.

The time that has passed since the 27th CPSU Congress has been rich in events and has demonstrated that in its aspiration for restructuring art is trying to liberate itself from bureaucratic methods of management, administrative impediments, organizational and financial messes, unobjective, biased criticism, doubtful but "untouchable" authorities, and all the other such strata that obstruct normal artistic creativity.

The Soviet visual arts have made an enormous contribution to world artistic culture in the 20th Century. They have breathed into it the powerful wind of renewal, humanism, and revolutionary social transformations.

During the report period (which was not a simple one for the development of art), a number of major works were created. The link of the visual arts with the life of the people was strengthened. Private viewings become more common, exhibition halls were built, and museums and peoples galleries were opened. In the last five years about 25 million people visited our exhibits. They were popular not just among Soviet people, but also abroad.

The regional expositions in large cities of the republics and the 7th Soviet Russia exhibit at the Manezh aroused universal interest. The republic exhibition "We defended peace--we will keep the peace!" devoted to the 40th anniversary of the Great Victory aroused in its visitors lofty patriotic feelings, hatred for war, and faith in the triumph of peace. In this exhibition Soviet art once again demonstrated fully its great potential for influencing the best parts of the human heart.

Yes, with all the complexities of its development, our art has preserved and still preserves its faith in human beings, its faith in humanity's socialist and communist future. Yes, it has always acted as the indestructible bastion of realism and humanism in 20th Century art. Naturally, this has aroused and today arouses hatred and every kind of attack by the willing and unwilling, the public and secret destroyers of world artistic culture. It has elicited hoots from the petty bourgeoisie of all sorts, who are drawn to scandal and uncomfortable in the presence of anything that is truly serious. There was a reason that Renato Guttuso once expressed the thought that has today become common: if it had not been for Soviet art, realism would have been ended long ago. These are bitter, but true words that illustrate the tragic fate of world artistic culture and the significance of the global role that the art as socialist society plays in it.

However, the speaker noted, by no means are we always aware that we are the ones who have been given the happiness and responsibility of preserving and passing on the the planet's future artists the promethean fire of realism, the fire of artistic truth which they today are trying by every means to blow out, trample, and destroy. Some do so consciously, understanding that Soviet realistic art stands against certain political aspirations. Others do it because they have not thought it through. Still others do it out of ignorance, confusing social progress with artistic decadence and creative permissiveness.

Characterizing the present position of Russian art, the speaker called it rather alarming. This is because of certain negative processes in art itself, and especially the fact that certain active groups of artists and art experts, sometimes supported by a press that does not fully understand everything, are making every effort to direct restructuring in the field of the visual arts toward discrediting and overthrowing realism. The fact is that in the last decade and a half the stagnant phenomena in our artistic life have been characterized in large part not only by a decline in the quality of our art, but also by a revitalization and spread of schools that are alien to realistic art and are gradually supplanting and replacing its vital realistic essence.

And although the creative work of many talented artists actively opposed the decadent phenomena, the process of the onslaught by hostile trends continued

unabated, engulfing primarily those artists who matured in those years that engendered cynicism and mistrust of national values, including artistic values.

The matter was made worse by the fact that not only was current criticism not doing battle against the onset of modernism, but theoretical thought seemed not to notice this process and often helped it along. Ultimately it came to the point where it became simply unseemly to speak publicly about the danger of modernism just as, incidentally, it was to mention the words "socialist realism."

But it would be a mistake to think that the stagnant situation in society was the only cause of the intensification of modernist tendencies. To a large extent the artists themselves are to blame, both as citizens of our country and as masters capable of using their creative work to influence the moral, ideological life of society. By no means were we always principled, by no means always sincere and creatively honest, by no means always demanding enough, of our comrades and, most importantly, of ourselves.

It is correctly said that restructuring has to begin with oneself. It is a great sorrow that cases of egotistical ambition and ignoble attitudes toward the profession, colleagues in the profession, and the collective have become a frequent phenomenon among us. And we have suffered and now suffer a great loss from this: creative, human, and financial. In the end result this has a tangible impact on the reputation of all Russian art. And it is not accidental that year after year at regional, republic, and even all-Union exhibits lofty civic and moral content has increasingly retreated, more and more crude, "gray" works have appeared, subjects have become trivial or, on the other hand, "important" subjects are used to cover cold, untalented, pseudo-pictures, and the "right" and "left" salon groupings grow. The impassioned, genuinely truthful and life-affirming note in our art was heard less and less and was increasingly weak.

It became hard to put together exhibits in recent years, although the Russian union today has about 12,000 members. Now, as a result of the democratization of exhibition activity, everything that accumulated during the years of stagnation has poured out on the surface. Along with the confirmed, so to speak, ideological enemies of realism there is a fairly large detachment of young artists.

Of course, the picture of contemporary youth art is far from uniform. This was seen graphically at the "Youth of Russia" exhibit. This also showed through very well in the All-Union Youth Exhibit that just ran at the Manezh. Searches for one's own language, one's own voice, in art sometimes seem unexpected and unconventional, but they do not always indicate a break with realism. On the contrary, they often indicate an effort to see life without prejudice, to master certain positive traditions of contemporary artistic form, to broaden the framework of realistic depiction of reality, and to express one's attitude toward life with maximum vigor.

The broadening of exhibition activity in the very initial stage of restructuring is in itself a natural thing. Everything that deserves

attention needs to be shown and discussed. And this is not just to know the real situation in the sphere of artistic creativity, but also so that the plastic arts, which by their very nature involve visual affirmation of social ideals, are a very subtle tool for measuring the spiritual state of society, an instrument whose readings should be taken very seriously. But in this case, it becomes fundamentally important to form a mature, critical interpretation of what is shown. And here, unfortunately, things are very poor at the present time.

The essential thing today is to affirm the truth of artistic creativity as the cornerstone of the entire great edifice of realistic art. It is hard to be an artist-realist. Our muse is austere and demanding. One becomes her favorite only through selfless labor, through constant polishing of the skills entrusted to you, the speaker stated.

In our day the conscience and talent of the artist should stand against the lack of spirit in imperialism, which is armed with all the potential of mass information and television. In fighting for our art, we are really engaging in battle against the forces of world reaction. Professional artistic skill today is also skill in ideological struggle. Today, in the age of the nuclear threat, artists have a direct responsibility for the preservation of the entire human species. The artist-realist must be a politician in the highest sense of that concept, for he commands the art of truth, expected by its very nature to open people's eyes to the world and its pressing problems.

The creation of vivid works that are capable of expressing the creative and critical pathos of our days, filled with a bright feeling of the revolutionary transformations of the present time, inspired with love for nature and respect for human beings, directed to the triumph of socialism and peace on the planet--that is our program and it must be put into practice. Restructuring demands concrete actions, the application of all our efforts, both creative and organizational.

Purely quantitative indicators also illustrate the need for decisive changes. The union is growing at an alarming rate, and the new people mostly have low qualifications. We are now admitting 500-600 people a year. It has been decided to open art institutes in Moscow and Krasnoyarsk to raise the level of professional skills.

The decision to set up a youth association was not fully thought out. It has in fact become an independent union within the union.

Specific organizational changes should be directed to reviving that spirit of competition in art which was directly discussed at the 27th Party Congress and stressed in the report. The competitive principle should accompany the future master from his first steps, as a child in school. The principle of competition must also be made the basis for admission to the union.

Noting that 25 years of experience with zonal organizational structure for the union has proven justified, nonetheless the speaker pointed out the need to review and refine other important organizational aspects. In particular, such

forms of activity should be found for the enlarged city collectives which, with their independence, should not lessen their creative ties with the oblast organization.

Next the speaker dwelt on the activity of the RSFSR Artists Union relating to the issues of protection and utilization of the cultural heritage. The republic union, he reported, has taken vigorous steps not only in forming the All-Russian Society for the Preservation of Monuments, but also in resolving the fundamental problems of preserving them, beginning from developing appropriate legislation and positions of principle on Moscow, Leningrad, and cities of the Golden Ring, and ending with the problems of preserving the national landscape. But this activity does not produce the desired result as often as is needed. The time has come to raise this facet of the Artists Union's activity to a new level, including it in mandatory working plans of all our organizations, and to find new forms of cooperation with state organs and divisions of the All-Russian Society on the full range of problems. One of them is the status of restoration workers who, by some strange logic, do not have the right to become members of the Artists Union.

All our transformations, like all our future work, are completely impossible without principled criticism and self-criticism, the speaker stated. Professional criticism should not just be an important moving force in the creative process, but should also establish a connection with the mass audience and be the mouth-piece of public opinion. Infection with "group-ism" and inadequate seriousness and responsibility--these are a direct result of many years of underestimating the profession; this has objectively hurt its status and turned it into a kind of "service sphere." The hope was expressed that when criticism takes its proper place in the affairs of the union, that is, active participation in artistic councils, in ordering work, in discussion of works, in purchase of finished works, and so on, it will become responsible, fair, and principled.

The report also raised, on a discussion basis, the question of the principles of youth exhibits which, in the speaker's opinion, had a tendency to develop into artistic extravaganzas. Yes, he said, such exhibits attract us with their novelty. But what will happen with their young participants? How will they develop, what kind of super-challenges will they face after such flashy, theatricalized exhibits where young voices are scarcely heard, and how will their artistic personalities form under conditions of providing anonymous entertainment?

This whole carnival with young people overshadows one of the important problems of the union's life--the fate of yesterday's young people who continue their creative path in the mixed-age milieu of our organizations. The union does little about their problems. And concern for artists of the older generations is completely in the shadows. But fairness demands that all three age categories receive constant attention from the union board of directors.

The creative work of amateur artists is an inseparable part of Soviet culture. Assisting and helping them is an old and stable tradition of the Russian Artists Union. But recently some critics who propagandize amateur art have

begun to claim that the professional school is killing the creative principle in future artists. This very strange idea was also swiftly grasped and taken up by clever art "hangers-on" who saw art as an arena for free trade in their own unprofessional, dashed-off work. If a social need for such products exists, apparently, one should not object. But we cannot help but be put on guard by the position taken by certain mass information media and the desire that shows through here to somehow juxtapose professional and amateur art, which supposedly is more in tune with the consumer than professional art. To passively follow along with nothing but "cashbox success" would be to take up the questionable path of so-called "mass culture," which reduces art to the level of simple pleasure. Our works and exhibits should be attractive not simply because they fit changing viewers' tastes, no matter how elevated and developed they may be today, but should also summon the viewer to new horizons of spiritual life. Let there be many exhibits of the most varied schools, which in fact is what is already happening. We do not fear such competition. We are convinced that the sympathies of a large majority of the Soviet people will always remain on the side of true, serious art.

In conclusion the speaker said: in the last 70 years of Soviet power the primary features of the artist of the new social order, a completely new type of artist, have taken shape and been molded, with difficulty and through struggle. This artist is liberated from the need to please the tastes of patrons, to please consumer and elite tastes. He is tied to the fate of his people with his entire being. He is a soldier, a mourner, a town crier, a laborer, and a poet of his country, and of his people. This is his infinite responsibility and happiness. The lofty title of Soviet artist must be treasured and carefully preserved in the future.

V. V. Shcherbakov, chairman of the auditing commission of the RSFSR Artists Union, gave the commission's report.

Discussion of the reports followed.

The congress is continuing its work.

The delegates and guests of the congress visited the V. I. Lenin Mausoleum and placed a wreath there.

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FULL TEXT OF YAKOVLEV SPEECH AT CC CULTURAL CONFERENCE PUBLISHED

Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 23 Oct 86 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Conference in the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Excerpts] A conference was held in the CPSU Central Committee to examine progress in implementation of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers' decree "On Measures for Further Improving Concert Activities in the Country and Enhancing the Concert Organizations' Physical Facilities and Equipment." Taking part in it were workers in musical art, executives of concert organizations and educational institutions, ministers and directors of culture administrations, chiefs of culture departments of the union-republic communist party central committees and the CPSU kraykoms and obkoms, and executives of the central ministries and departments, the mass information media and public organizations.

A. N. Yakovlev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, spoke at the conference.

The time we are entering is a time of drastic creative changes, expectations and hopes, he said. But in order for these changes to be accomplished, we must learn to work in a new way in many respects and seek new approaches and new keys to solving the problems that have accumulated--not just in economics and politics, but also in the spiritual and moral sphere of society's life and in the very attitude toward man.

In accomplishing the task of socioeconomic acceleration set by the CPSU Central Committee's April Plenum and the 27th Party Congress, it is impossible to get by without spiritual acceleration, as well, and without a deepening of society's moral development. The role of art is invaluable here. This includes a great deal. And first and foremost--the inculcation in people's hearts, especially young people's, of lofty social ideals and civic convictions and the sacred human quality of ideological awareness. The inculcation of patriotism and love for the Homeland; and civic qualities and a proprietary, state-minded attitude toward life and the common cause also grow from this feeling.

The inculcation of Soviet internationalism, that spiritual cement that binds our multinational country into a united whole and includes the Soviet people

in the general destinies of mankind. The need, the urgency, of the democratization of all public life, which requires good breeding, honesty, lofty conviction and responsibility.

Doing this is not simple. And this is because we are still dominated by years-old stereotypes of thought and behavior, with which people have become familiar and to which they have grown accustomed, and which sometimes bind them, hand and foot, and prevent them from seeking the most rational and effective paths. This is why freshness of thought, initiative in actions, talent, education, the ability to do one's job well, energy and professionalism are growing in value in all spheres of life.

In all of our affairs today--large and small, daily and historical, material and spiritual--we have no right to lose sight for a moment of the picture of the world in which we live. It is a crowded, complex and dynamic, but conflicting world.

The present-day world is become increasingly crowded and increasingly interconnected in terms of communications. To count on succeeding in creating, in this world, some sort of niche or cloister that is isolated from external influences and on sitting in it in timid humility is not simply to succumb to illusion but to doom oneself to defeat.

One needs one's own active and aggressive stand. The sort of stand that will ensure us not only unconditional priority in our own home but the steady strengthening of our musical influence on the external world.

Art and information know no boundaries. But the same is true of anti-art and disinformation. In this connection the speaker called attention to such a phenomenon as "mass culture," which in the second half of the 20th century has seized the key positions in the spiritual life of capitalist society. It is ideological and psychological aggression aimed at imposing false values steeped in ignorance. It is aimed at kindling consumerist instincts, dehumanizing and demoralizing the masses, asserting a topsy-turvy value system, and forming base, spiritually empty stereotypes of ordinary mass consciousness that are the salvation of capitalism.

Mass culture actively and skillfully takes advantage of people's natural yearning for entertainment and recreation, but it is oriented in the process toward consumerist principles, the standardization of human feelings and thought, a philistine attitude toward life and the world, and an uncivic-minded attitude and indifference.

Unfortunately, it has put its shoots down, albeit shoots that are still weak, in our country in songs, on the concert stage and television, and in literature, the theater and film, especially in the form of blind imitation. This manifests itself in such phenomena that are alien to our traditions as the lowering of standards for cultural works. Strictly speaking, any toleration for the spreading in our midst of alien morality and ethics not only does not move us forward but leads to a loss of that which is good and great that our art and our people have accumulated over the centuries. No objective prerequisites exist for such a turn of affairs. And if we speak of

negative phenomena in that sphere today, they are the direct result of our own omissions, unfinished work and inaction.

It is said that spectacles, entertainment and amusement are needed, especially for young people. There is no disputing that they are needed, and very much so. But everything depends on the well-known issue of quality. The concept according to which entertainment is practically the main form of successfully occupying free time seems especially rash. In reality, low-grade entertainment is the same kind of drug as any other. In some cases it practically makes a claim to leadership and to a role as the exhasutive factor in the formation of young people's tastes, turning into a serious phenomenon of the times, and not just an aesthetic but a moral phenomenon. It is necessary to study this fact comprehensively and from a well-adjusted methodological standpoint, and to work out a sufficiently objective attitude toward it and develop an aesthetically accurate and politically clear view of this problem.

Today a respectable stratum of fully literate and fully educated people who reject any serious spiritual occupation has developed. They read nothing but detective novels; they go to the cinema only to see action films; and of all the musical genres they recognize only hard rock. Their claims on culture are aggressive and limited. They demand entertainment and whatever there is there, and they do not want to tire themselves with serious reflection and burning passions; the satisfaction only of the simplest needs is becoming customary for them, and with them they associate a sense of some sort of psychological comfort. They cultivate in themselves only the consumer. This is precisely what our ideological adversary is trying to achieve, and this is the human factor with a minus sign.

And here is another alarming trait in the development of present-day, consumerist mass culture: Here, as nowhere else, shoddiness and hackwork, vulgarity and mediocrity get along quite well. A kind of commercial trend is taking hold, the representatives of which view art as a good means of earning money, brushing concerns about the quality of spiritual food further and further aside. We are duty bound, as difficult as it may be, to win back the space that has been polluted by Western-style mass culture. We must more purposefully, consistently and effectively wage the struggle on the spiritual, aesthetic and psychological level, on the level of mass attitudes, and take advantage of the power of the mass communications media to actively assert socialist, genuinely humanistic ideals of man and society. The situation is developing in the world in such a way that only socialism today is capable of preserving the genuine values of civilization and developing them.

The closest attention should be given to artistic and philosophical tasks in concert activities. The problems of quality remain the basic criterion that defines approaches to evaluating concert activities. The artist must be helped to seek new ways in art, in means of expression, and in the desire to speak in his own, distinctive language.

Our genuine ideological interests are served when, and only when, both every concert individually and the entire system of concert activity as a whole assert our Soviet way of life and a democratic understanding and sense of the

world, and foster spiritual health. All this, of course, has nothing in common with tedium and conventionalism. It is necessary to ennoble and humanize concert activity, like the entire process of its organization.

A genuine attitude toward talent and, to put it mildly, individuality, is extremely important here. Do individualities find it easy to get along in our art--in our musical art, in particular? Don't we level the most complaints against an individuality, doing everything we can upon our first encounter with it to remake it, reduce it to a common denominator and make it like everything else? What a difficult time was given in the past to the so-called "voiceless" stage singers. Yet their songs live on. And any of these "voiceless" singers is immediately recognized, because there was heart and lofty meaning in their performances. And what is the situation today? A nondescript performer can calmly flit from concert to concert, and he is deemed to be a professional. He pleases everyone but the listener. And those who are the least bit different from others immediately come under crossfire. It's as though we want to smooth everyone out in both the literal and figurative sense, to modify everyone.

How, incidentally, do icons and "righteous martyrs" arise? Very simply. A performer has just begun his career in art, and a train of warnings already stretches out behind him: he is doing this, that and another thing wrong. And precisely what the viewer or the listener wants to see is something new, something "wrong," something different from what is well-known; he wants to figure out, listen and understand for himself. But he often has no such opportunity. The performer has already been held back just to be on the safe side, and an aura of the forbidden accompanies him for a long time.

Such is the situation not just on the popular-music stage but in serious music genres. There are authors of compositions that are not performed for years in concerts, and that same aura of the forbidden kindles interest in their art. This is abnormal for the development of art.

The speech called attention to the problems of the musical education of young people and emphasized, in this connection, the role and significance of making known the best examples of our country's and the world legacy, folk art, and the outstanding works of Soviet music--in all genres, without exception. It was noted that "prohibitions" in art cannot lead to positive results. And what is really bad, especially in the genre of popular music, only dies a natural death when it is crowded out by the genuine and the artistic. However, this is equally true of serious music.

It is not true that young people do not understand serious music; they are simply not taught to understand it. And we today, instead of seeking forms of working with young people, reproach them and say how shameful it is not to love serious classical music and not go to the philharmonic halls but, instead, to love discotheques and dances. But what specifically is being done to rectify the distortions in their tastes? Philharmonic evenings for young people, special television and radio programs--yes, all that exists, just as it did earlier, however. And maybe the reason we have lost out on the times is that we cannot think up a new form of popularizing music and incorporate fresh and nontraditional methods in it. What would happen, say, if, instead

of an art specialist who is intoxicated with his noble love for music and hears nothing besides himself, popular music idols started talking on television about the classics, while composers in the classical forms started talking about the place and significance of light music? Maybe it would be a good idea for a symphony director or the head of a popular vocal and instrumental group to reflect on music in an atmosphere of debate and discussion. Alas. We have almost no such approach to the inculcation of taste.

The heroically difficult and tragic pages of the Great Patriotic War have become part of the people's memory forever. There is no need to say what this war was for us, and what a concentration of effort, will and everyday heroism it demanded. Ask any veteran. Would we have won this war, which is not called Great for nothing, without the music and the songs that were heard then? And most likely many will reply, "Who knows?" or even, categorically, "No." These emotional appraisals contain, of course, an understandable and forgivable share of exaggeration, but they also contain the people's loftiest appraisal of art--an appraisal which has been earned and become a moral standard for us. With respect to war songs the question never even arose: won't our ideological adversary surpass them with his musical products? It never arose because these songs genuinely met people's fundamental spiritual needs and were perceived by everyone as their own songs. That is why they are still sung to this day, and not just in our country.

I shall cite two figures reflecting the scale of concert activity over the course of just one year. 500,000 concerts attended by 140 million people. Impressive. It works out that every other inhabitant--we are now 280 million--attended a concert once a year. We like to put it this way: every other, one in every three, one in every four. Let us look from the other side, and then it suddenly turns out that the statistically average concert in our country is attended by 280 people. And here, naturally, if you compare this figure to the country's population, you get an entirely different arithmetic. Not every other, but one in a million. One attended, but 999,999 people did not attend. 140 million listeners a year--that means that the Soviet listener attended a concert once in almost two years. There you have the concrete, real human factor; there you have report juggling of the figures, a concrete illustration of that line in the party Central Committee's Political Report to the 27th CPSU Congress: "Doesn't the living human being disappear in such a flashing of figures and ranges?"

There is frequent talk about the trouble with popular music and the mass song. Indeed, it contains a great deal of vulgarity and poverty of music and lyrics, hasty hackwork and drab imitation. All this arose from the vacuum created by a shortage of highly professional works, a shortage about the nature of which our leading masters in both the composers' and writers' unions should think.

At the 27th Party Congress there was talk of the role of the creative unions in the life of art and of society as a whole. But it was emphasized at the same time that the main results of their work should be measured not by resolutions and meetings but by well-written works that are capable of enriching the people's spiritual life.

Sometimes a strange picture turns out. There are loud discussions and loud articles in the press and from the rostrum, but in life trivial subject matter, vulgarity and tastelessness hold sway. Yet the artist's main rostrum is his art--in this case, his songs, his symphony or his oratorio. So they do not exist. And when one does not exist, the other appears. After all, the numerous vocal groups, many of which have absolutely justifiably been criticized for the poor quality of their performance, sprung up from that same musical vacuum in which the professional stage had not managed to keep up with changing tastes. Tastes change, and the young people who make up those vocal and instrumental groups and for whom they play are a mobile people who love new rhythms and follow music fashion. Fashion in art, of course, is not a definitive category, but after all, it really exists. Why pretend that it does not?

We, of course, are depressed by the lyrics of some young people's songs. But this, I dare say, is more the misfortune than the fault of the amateur poets. They have attempted, however unskillfully, to think about the problems that exist in real life. Moreover, they have done so earlier than many professional poets and composers. That is also life and its realities. That is a kind of protest by young people against the pomposity, slickness and facileness of many songs created for young people. There is something here to think about collectively, so that art by young people and for young people may answer to the times and their tasks. We should strengthen young people's faith in our ideals, trust them and help them grow. Their art and art for them should contain truth, so that the loftiest concepts that designate our moral values become a need, so that it is they that inspire and lead forward.

We talk a great deal about young people and about the fact that their tastes must be educated. This was also talked about at the last composers' congress. Various organizational measures were proposed: nondepartmental activities; the coordination of efforts--all that, of course, is necessary. But let us also listen to the opinion of [Mikis Teodorakis], a guest at the past congress. He said: "But wouldn't it be better to raise the question of why young people do not always understand us? Maybe there is an underestimation of young people's need to express themselves in their own way, in some new way, and to speak about what touches them." And further: "If we have a direct and effective tie with the people and young people, we will invariably find correct means of communication and correct modern aesthetic expressions, otherwise we will fall into the embrace of commercial Western art." To put it more briefly, musical vulgarity should be combated not with prohibitions but with music, which must crowd out all surrogates and all counterfeits of itself and of the present day. Isn't it logical to oppose spiritual emptiness with spirituality and a vacuum with fullness? It is logical.

You will not rectify the situation with words and appeals alone, and once again musical art itself comes to the foreground. That means that the efforts of all those organizations and departments on whom the movement of music to the masses depends should be aimed at creating the kind of atmosphere of creativity and the kind of incentives for it that will foster the appearance of compositions that are capable of captivating people and becoming the genuine property of art.

We have learned to overorganize various festivals, competitions and auditions in such a way that everything is decided in advance at them. The juries, as a rule, are selected in such a way that they can reach an consensus decision, and not in the process of viewing and discussing, but in advance. Everything is somehow overbureaucratized. Doesn't this undermine the very essence of a competition, a rivalry of talents, a vying of ideas? What and whom do we fear? Is the prestige of our genuine musical values so low that we must defend them through administrative procedures? Only a lack of confidence in our powers, or an atmosphere marked by a lack of openness and of open discussion of creative affairs, and the predominance of certain subjective tastes over other, push us to do such a thing. This does not become us.

Music accompanies a person everywhere, in everyday life, at leisure, and even at the workplace. It is listened to by people of various ages, various levels of culture, and various tastes and linguistic and other traditions. For that reason alone it cannot be identical in terms of either genre or other features. Except for one thing--quality, which, as is known, depends not on genre but on the author's talent and professionalism, and his degree of understanding of his artistic and civic responsibility. There cannot be "high" and "low" genres, because there are no bad and good genres; there is good and bad music.

Further, analyzing the state of the present-day concert business, the speaker emphasized that "its efficiency coefficient" is substantially lowered by the lack of coordination that exists in the interaction among composer, performer and listener. There are various reasons here. First of all, there is a certain divorce of some authors from the requirements of the times and the needs of the mass audience, and sometimes even manifestations of elitism. If you look at the matter from the standpoint of report figures, it turns out that an endless number of symphonies, oratorios, operas, operettas and compositions in other genres have been created. And not just created but already bought by the Ministry of Culture for performance. If they have been bought, one must assume that they are all of a high quality. But a huge number of the works that have been bought are never performed. For whom, then, are they written. For the purchasing commission?

If we analyze the situation, we are faced with a typical example of report padding, which is based on that same principle of gross output. Behind it lie costs not just of material but also of a moral and--let us say bluntly--political nature.

Or take the geography of concert activity. And here, with an abundance of figures, it is clear that the lion's share of report figures fall on the large centers. It's as though we cover the country's territory with all-union, republic and oblast dimensions. But when it comes to specific cities and villages, it turns out that concert life there is barely flickering, not to mention serving the residents, builders and oil- and gas-field workers of the North, Siberia and the Far East. Here there really are many problems. But there is even more inertia, lack of maneuverability, and inability to organize matters so that the concert system is flexible and takes people's interests into account. This, incidentally, is also a question of social justice.

It is impossible to avoid touching on another aspect of the problem--the professional and performance level of many concerts. We take pride in our splendid artistic collectives and soloists. However, by no means all concerts are on such a level, and this is especially true of artistic groups performing for children and in the countryside.

Since the day that the resolution on concert activity came out, more than six months has passed. But so far there have been few changes. There are not enough concerts that become events in cultural and public life. The culture agencies and the executives of concert organizations almost never act as initiators in the creation of interesting programs and new forms of work with audiences.

Many problems in the area of the organization of concert activity stem from the fact that its forms have become ossified and have not changed for decades. Philharmonic societies use every permissible and often impermissible means available to "squeeze out" the plan, and we somehow close our eyes to the fact that the possibility of financial violations and abuses is built into the imperfection of the very system for the planning and financing of concert organizations and the systems of reporting and of remunerating performers. Therefore, the main task that must be accomplished without delay is to develop a substantiated management structure and system for planning and financing visiting concert activity. Qualitative criteria for the work of philharmonic societies have yet to be worked out.

We call on the great masters to carry art to the masses, and indeed, they do not think of their work without meeting with the broadest audience. But sometimes elementary creative and living conditions are not created for performers at the local level. Why should a performer, before appearing before people, endure a mass of inconveniences, and why is it so hard to put a matter that does not require great effort in order? The only thing required is basic standards of human relations and a sense of official responsibility.

Recently our outstanding pianist Svyatoslav Richter made a concert tour of cities of Siberia and the Far East. Siberia itself and the people who came to his concerts made a tremendous impression on him. He emotionally told about this in a newspaper interview, but he noted in the process that he did not find a normally tuned piano in a single concert hall. Doesn't this say something about the attitude that local philharmonic societies take toward their job?

The role and responsibility of artistic councils and primary party organizations have been clearly downplayed in the creation of new programs, the development of repertoire policy, the improvement of performers' professional skills, and the establishment of a favorable climate in collectives.

The CPSU Central Committee has deemed it necessary to substantially improve the physical facilities and equipment available for musical culture. In the next decade it is planned to build 42 concert halls, hundreds of houses of culture and thousands of clubs in the country. The USSR Ministry of Culture and local organizations face the responsible task of creating good, up-to-date

designs that take our own country's experience and that of foreign countries into account, and outfitting the halls with up--to-date equipment.

All these questions of concert activity must be resolved in a comprehensive fashion. When we are able to do this and when everyone--from the beginning performer to the virtuoso, from the Komsomol raykom instructor to the first secretary of the USSR Composers' Union, from the rayon club to the union Ministry of Culture--has a clear, precise notion of what, and by what dates, they themselves are supposed to do, and when the desire and resolve exist to go forward, no matter what difficulties must be overcome, that is when it will be possible to speak about the positive results of the present meeting and numerous discussions in the press and, most importantly, the results of the concrete actions of all interested persons and institutions. Precisely the interested ones. Interested not by virtue of official duty but by virtue of conscience and civic awareness, not to speak of the fact that in the organization of concert activities we sometimes encounter interest of an entirely different nature, a deformed, purely commercial interest.

It is necessary for all interested organizations and departments to precisely determine their place in the restructuring of concert activity and to do everything so that viewers and listeners might feel real changes in its content. It is time to move from words to deeds and to demonstrate in practice one's understanding, one's sincerity and one's right to be engaged in this noble undertaking.

And do not let us forget the main criterion, which in general is clear and simple: Soviet people should live a better, fuller and spiritually richer life tomorrow than today. This is the social meaning of acceleration. This is the yardstick by which the effectiveness and the responsibility of our art will be evaluated.

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PARTY, STATE AFFAIRS

ORENBURG OBKOM CHIEF ON OBLAST SOCIO-ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

Moscow PARTIYNAYA ZHIZN in Russian No 7, Apr 87 pp 29-33 (signed to press 24 Mar 87)

[Article by A. Balandin, first secretary of the CPSU Orenburg Obkom: "Conviction, Organization and a Businesslike Manner"]

[Excerpts] Not much time has passed yet since the CPSU Central Committee's January (1987) Plenum, but the impact of the decisions it adopted is becoming increasingly apparent. I have attended many Central Committee plenums and have a basis for comparison. The January Plenum, one may say, gave object lessons in Bolshevik candor and democratism, and all of its work was suffused with a modern spirit and nonstandard approaches. Everyone who participated in it felt this deeply. The political line of the 27th CPSU Congress received further development at the plenum, the attention of which was focused on the most urgent problems of restructuring, acceleration and the party's personnel policy.

Reflecting on that fundamental task, I cannot help mentioning an article in the YUZHNY URAL oblast newspaper by a delegate to the 27th CPSU Congress, Ye. Goncharova, a conductor at the Orenburg Railroad Car Depot. The main thing, she wrote, is that in the year that has passed since the party congress, people have realized that it is impossible to continue working and living in the old way. That means that the process of restructuring has begun in people's minds.

In the oblast's labor collectives and party organizations there are many examples of this conviction of the irreversibility of the changes and awareness of one's personal responsibility for the fate of restructuring. However, we also know the danger of hasty assurances and groundless illusions; the lessons of the recent past have taught us this. The truth that was spoken at the CPSU Central Committee's January Plenum is equally necessary both to those who are struggling against stagnation and irresponsibility and those who cannot yet give up the old approaches, who try to evade the explanation and solution of the problems that arise.

On the second Thursday in February, according to existing tradition, the secretaries, bureau members and responsible officials of the obkom, and the executives of the oblispolkom and other oblast organizations visited the

collectives to hold meetings with the working people. A similar picture was observed on this day in all the oblast's cities and rayons. It was proposed to me that I meet with workers, engineering and technical personnel and office employees at the head enterprise in the Elektropreobrazovatel Production Association. I was convinced on the basis of numerous critical remarks and proposals that the plenum's decisions had left no one indifferent. Our other comrades reached the same conclusion. The need arose to organize a special program on local television on the results of the political day in order to inform the public about how certain of the most pressing problems would be solved.

What could we report to the working people about progress in carrying out the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress in our oblast, and about restructuring? In the first place, everyone is interested in the problems of the oblast's economic, social and cultural development. On the basis of last year's results, if one speaks of the overall situation, assignments for the sale of output and labor productivity in industry were overfulfilled. The unit-cost of output was somewhat reduced, and contract discipline improved, though slightly. The production of agricultural output in the agro-industrial complex reached 2.5 billion rubles, or exceeded the average annual level of the 11th Five-Year Plan by 19 percent. The oblast coped with plans for the procurement of grain, including hard and strong wheat, potatoes, milk, eggs and wool. Nearly 400 rubles of profit was obtained, of which 120 million was above plan. The current year has been begun in an organized fashion, albeit with tremendous difficulty. We rightly link results in the economy with positive changes in sociopolitical life. First of all, the party organizations' attention to production and the social sphere has increased. The search for new methods of organizational and ideological work is expanding. Labor discipline has been strengthened, and order has improved.

However, the oblast party organization (and all of Orenburg Oblast's working people should know this) is troubled by a whole series of serious unsolved problems. In the most important sectors positive changes are being achieved with great difficulties: a mechanism of the retarding of socio-economic development and holding back of progressive transformations has made itself felt. For example, the rates of growth of industrial production declined by a factor of more than four over the past three five-year periods. During these years a good many new enterprises went into operation, but some of them have not yet reached their rated capacity.

The party and ideological aktiv is striving to arouse in the working people a feeling of involvement and responsibility for surmounting negative trends and improving affairs in every sector. We believe that it is important, in particular, to increase labor and creative initiative in such areas as strengthening plan discipline, improving the efficiency and quality of work, and utilizing the achievements of scientific and technological progress.

One important condition of stability in the economy is the fulfillment of contracted deliveries. One cannot help being troubled by the fact that this year one in every three of the oblast's enterprises have committed violations of contract discipline.

A candid conversation is being conducted about ways to improve product quality. In the first year of the five-year period, there was a considerable shortfall of products in the top quality category. State acceptance should create a barrier to defective, substandard products. So far five large enterprises in the oblast have been shifted to nondepartmental control. Not everything is going smoothly with the introduction of state acceptance, but matters are not going badly in places where the necessary technical foundation has been prepared and explanatory work has been carried out. We are convinced that the problem of improving quality cannot be solved by a "cavalry attack," and that success is possible when every employee recognizes his personal responsibility for the soundness and dependability of the products produced.

The tasks of mechanizing and automating production and introducing advanced technologies and computers are not being accomplished very well in our oblast. As a consequence, the rates of reducing manual labor are low.

The untapped potential in agricultural production is being discussed equally openly in various collectives in both the city and rural areas. So far the process of intensifying agricultural production and introducing economic methods of management and new forms of the organization and remuneration of labor is proceeding slowly in the countryside. While indices for the oblast as a whole were good last year, 15 rayons failed to fulfill production plans, and nine failed to fulfill plans for the procurement of grain. The feed problem has not been fully solved, and this especially pertains to the quality and nutritive value of feeds. Work on the reproduction of the herd and the care of animals, and breeding need fundamental improvement. The vocational training of personnel is still low, and there are numerous instances of an unconscientious attitude toward work.

The nature of letters and appeals to party and soviet agencies and of the questions, requests and critical remarks expressed during meetings and discussions at production facilities and places of residence indicates that people are especially keenly interested in the prospects for improving the food supply. The working people call attention to violations of the principle of social justice and cases of crime and abuse of office.

Lately it has been possible to somewhat rectify the state of affairs with regard to meat and milk food products. Nonetheless, the food problem is not being solved very fast. We see untapped reserves, first and foremost, in the intensive development of social animal husbandry. The feed supply and the existing numbers of livestock on farms make it possible to achieve more. Everything will depend on personnel and on how we in actuality handle the introduction of intensive technologies, progressive forms of the organization and remuneration of labor, and cost accounting. The successful accomplishment of these tasks depends to a great extent on restructuring in the work of primary party organizations and enhancement of the productiveness of their work.

The causes of negative processes in our society were disclosed at the CPSU Central Committee's plenum. Negative phenomena and trends have also noticeably manifested themselves in the work of the oblast party organization and the CPSU obkom, gorkoms and raykoms. At the present these oversights in

work are being analyzed in depth, and cases of certain executives' abuse of office, mutual protection, lax discipline, the spread of drunkenness, and personal immodesty are being uncovered and discussed. Many party organizations have lacked militancy, exactingness toward communists, and attention to the development of their ideological and political qualities. In a number of cases the role of party meetings and elective party bodies has been downplayed, which has deprived rank-and-file communists of the opportunity to really influence the situation in labor collectives. Even now cases in which questions are decided in a narrow circle and the main word remains with the economic executive have still not been eliminated.

The oblast party committee has been making considerable efforts to improve the atmosphere in party organizations and labor collectives and increase exactingness toward communists. Last year alone in our party organization 879 people were expelled from the party for serious offenses and crimes. Nonetheless, we have not yet succeeded in erecting a reliable barrier against those who plan to derive personal advantage from their party membership.

The demand to raise the criteria for evaluating every employee and make them stricter is rightfully being put forward. After all, flaws in personnel work have become the chief reason for the shortcomings we have. And right now, in discussing the decisions made by the CPSU Central Committee's January Plenum, people are recalling the case in Kuvandyk in which S. Kolpashchikov, first secretary of the party raykom, without consulting even with members of the buro, submitted a candidate for the position of second secretary for confirmation by the raykom plenum. He thought that the old mechanism would work without failure. But this time it misfired. The marks of the restructuring that has begun are evident here.

The problem is that nowadays we again and again encounter cases in which party, soviet and economic executives manifest an unsuitable work style. The disease whose symptoms are a failure to understand the primary importance of social and political factors, crazy willful ideas, a sense of all-permissiveness, and manifestations of bureaucracy, crudeness and moral insensitivity has proved to be very chronic. In short, some people in our oblast are accustomed to acting according to the principle: "I said it--do it!"

It should be emphasized one more time that nowadays communists are ceasing to tolerate those who do not listen to their voice and get carried away with management by administrative decree. Recently, for example, Comrade Bogatov, was removed from his office as first secretary and member of the buro of the CPSU Buguruslan City Gorkom. Despite repeated warnings and party penalties, he continued to operate using administrative-command methods, did not respond to criticism, ignored openness, and lost the trust of a substantial number of the members of the city party committee.

How can flagrant errors be avoided in the selection of personnel? The answer is contained in decisions of the January plenum. We should radically change the very approach to the advancement of personnel. Such qualities of future executives as their ideological and theoretical outlook and political

maturity, moral stability, and ability to persuade people and get them to follow them should be taken into account first of all. A certain amount of work is being done in this area. The certification of personnel is being done everywhere, reports by executives have become regular, and their character references are being updated. The use of elections in filling responsible positions is being widely practiced.

Recently, for example, the manager of the Orenburggazpromstroy Trust was elected. Six candidates were nominated for the position. Questionnaires were distributed to employees in all the trust's subdivisions on which everyone indicated his candidate. The final question was decided at a meeting of the party and economic-management aktiv. A. Selivanov, secretary of the trust's party committee, was elected as trust manager by an overwhelming majority of votes. Incidentally, at the aktiv meeting two candidates for the position of secretary of the party committee were discussed on a preliminary basis.

Perhaps not everything in this experience is acceptable. It is possible that we shouldn't get carried away with a large number of candidates. The opportunity should probably be given to labor collectives to acquaint themselves more closely with each candidate and learn more about the candidates' potential capabilities and their plans of action in the new occupation.

In the publicizing of the documents of the Central Committee's January plenum, an important role is being assigned to the mass information media. More than 450 journalists of rayon, city, enterprise and oblast newspapers and radio and television have been involved in this work. Editorial collectives have checked their plans against the decisions of the Central Committee plenum, made clarifications and changes, and elaborated specifically on the priority subject areas.

Party committees have strengthened and enhanced their ties with editorial collectives and set a course of supporting the fresh shoots of the new and the proven advanced practices that have been illuminated in the press. Various forms of work are being used to this end: press conferences, meetings by secretaries of the party obkom, gorkoms and raykoms with journalists, the participation of party personnel in editorial meetings, the certification of journalistic personnel, and others. A detailed discussion has been held with newspaper, television and radio journalists about how to convey the ideas and decisions of the Central Committee's January plenum to every person and help people understand and assimilate the need for restructuring in our life.

We see certain positive changes and associate them first and foremost with party committees' attention to strengthening the critical orientation of the press. An absolute majority of raykoms and gorkoms have discussed the work of their press organs and supported their most important articles, which has unquestionably had a positive effect on enhancing the effectiveness of published materials and expanding openness in the work of party, soviet, trade-union and economic-management agencies through the mass information media. However, many party committees have not backed up their decisions with organizational work or have taken a superficial and incompetent approach to

the matter, accusing newspaper editors of every shortcoming and overlooking their own omissions.

Principled articles frequently encounter resistance. Instead of taking concrete steps to eliminate serious shortcomings disclosed by a newspaper, certain officials start to investigate the personality of the author, looking for blunders in critical articles. We had to seriously admonish A. Fadeyev, first secretary of the CPSU Oktyabrskiy Raykom, for an incorrect attitude toward critical articles in the rayon newspaper.

At the meeting in the CPSU Central Committee with the executives of the mass information and propaganda media it was stressed that the press today is called on to be even more effective, to give no rest to the idlers, profit-seekers, time-servers and suppressors of criticism, and to more actively help those who are fighting for restructuring. A great deal here depends on the position taken by party committees.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum cast a new light on the approach to the political education and economic training of communists and all working people. There has been a great deal of formalism and superficiality here. We are trying to overcome these shortcomings. The in-depth study of the plenum documents is presently under way. At classes that the oblast's best propagandists are enlisted to conduct, a creative atmosphere is created and a candid discussion is held of problems and ways to solve them.

Attention is being called to other forms of training and propaganda activity, as well. Tasks related to the further improvement of lecture work and enhancement of its quality and effectiveness in light of recent party directives were discussed recently at the report and election conference of the oblast organization of the Knowledge Society.

The CPSU Central Committee's January (1987) Plenum is providing a new acceleration of restructuring and of the country's socio-economic development. In these conditions, such qualities of party, soviet and economic executive personnel as profound ideological conviction, the highest political and moral responsibility for the destinies of the country, and steadfast adherence to the Leninist ethics of Bolshevism are assuming special importance. And hence the task--all communists must learn to work in the conditions of increasingly thorough democracy and people's growing public and labor activeness, and must learn to persuade them and lead them.

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VOLYN OBLAST OFFICIALS FIRED IN UKRAINE

Corruption Exposed

PM171529 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jun 87 Second Edition p 3

[Letter from Volyn Oblast Prosecutor N. Naydenko followed by report from PRAVDA correspondent M. Odinets under the general heading "Tripping Up the Prosecutor" and the rubric "The Party Committee and the Law"; first two paragraphs are PRAVDA introduction]

[Text] In a rejoinder entitled "Bonuses Lutsk Fashion" (PRAVDA, 7 June) we discussed unlawful bonuses which party and soviet leaders in Lutsk and Volyn Oblast had been receiving from organizations and enterprises. This practice had continued for a number of years. A legitimate question is: What were the local law enforcement organs doing all this time?

Everything has been explained by a copy of a letter sent to us by N. Naydenko, prosecutor for Volyn Oblast, the original having been sent by him to the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. We now publish this letter.

There have been a considerable number of items in the press discussing the consequences of the lack of principle in some public prosecutor's office members who deviate from the law under pressure from local party and soviet organs. However, the struggle against local favoritism trends and attempts by some figures to place themselves above the law still leads in some places to difficult consequences for members of law enforcement organs themselves.

I will try to illustrate this using examples familiar to me. Having been appointed prosecutor for Volyn Oblast, I launched an active campaign against violations of the law. But it was soon made clear to me that if I were to continue in this spirit I would be forced to leave Lutsk.

Strange though it may seem, I encountered a great deal of criticism from Z. Kovalchuk, first secretary of the party obkom. Perhaps this was because the public prosecutor's office had once exposed serious overreporting concerning sugar beet and potatoes in Lutskiy Rayon when he had been first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party raykom?

But we have continued to wage a struggle against overreporting, embezzlement of socialist property, bribe taking, and speculation. For example, we discovered that national wealth was being embezzled on a particularly large scale within the oblast consumer services system, in the "Volynyanka" firm. Dozens of officials had criminal charges brought against them for embezzlement, bribe taking, and speculating in motor vehicles in Novovolynsk.

An investigation into the criminal activity of bribe takers from the Lutsk Gorispolkom and its housing organs caused a great uproar in Volyn Oblast. Litvinenko, chairman of the city soviet, found himself in the dock together with the rest.

In a number of cases the criminals had used blank order forms signed by him. In March 1986 Litvinenko was sentenced by the oblast court to 5 years imprisonment. The Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet legal collegium for criminal affairs left the sentence in force. But last autumn a Ukrainian SSR Supreme Court plenum repealed Litvinenko's sentence for accepting bribes and terminated the sentence on the grounds of lack of evidence. He was instead sentenced to a 1-year prison sentence for negligence and was released from custody after he had served his sentence. However, the USSR prosecutor general recently submitted a protest to the USSR Supreme Court to reverse the decision of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Court plenum.

Litvinenko's local patrons, particularly V. Zhibrov, second secretary of the Volyn party obkom, displayed special interest and vigor in the case of the discredited city soviet chairman. After all, they used to work side by side; it was on Zhibrov's recommendation that Litvinenko became city mayor. But it was not enough for Litvinenko's patrons to have his punishment reduced to the minimum; they also had to have their revenge on those who had investigated the case and conducted the trial. And so, suddenly, out of the blue, investigators A. Ostapchuk and Yu. Maksimchuk, who had conducted the case against Litvinenko, were dropped from the CPSU on instructions given by the obkom at a party commission session and later at the party gorkom bureau. CPSU member T. Fidre, who had chaired the court session, assistant prosecutor N. Matviyenko, who had brought the state charges, and I were issued strict reprimands which were recorded in our record cards. All this lasted a mere 15 minutes and we were not even allowed to say anything. It is quite obvious that we were held specially to blame for the fate of Litvinenko and the offenders under him. After all, N. Kosenko, first secretary of the Lutsk party gorkom, had once been assistant to Litvinenko, after which he had become first secretary of the party gorkom. It is under him that housing funds had been embezzled.

Using his authority, Kosenko has blatantly interfered in the activity of the city prosecutor's office. Discovering, for example, that its members had begun to investigate the legality of the commissioning of a children's hospital just before the New Year, he demanded that the investigation be stopped. It would be conducted, he made it clear, where he said it would be conducted and not where the prosecutor decided.

An even more disgraceful incident occurred in Kamen-kashirskiy Rayon. After G. Bondar, rayon prosecutor, instituted criminal charges against a number of heads of local village stores for abuse of their position and overreporting, I. Karpomiz, first secretary of this raykom, began to victimize him. When, during a personal visit, the secretary threatened the prosecutor with party punishment, the latter, being unwell, grew extremely agitated, lost consciousness and dropped to the floor right there in the bureau. You think this stopped the first secretary? No. In his desire to compromise the prosecutor, the secretary ordered the militia to send the prosecutor to the hospital to be checked for alcohol abuse. But disappointment awaited the zealous administrator--Bondar was sober. He had lost consciousness because of a heart disease known as ischemia. I reported this disgraceful incident to the first and second secretaries of the party obkom. No reaction.

Incidentally, about my visits to the obkom leaders. I have noticed in recent years that my reports containing information on violations of the law in the oblast have caused increasing irritation, and displeasure has sometimes even been expressed about the institution of criminal charges against officials. And the number of these cases has grown. And not because of excessive zeal on the part of the prosecutor's office, as has sometimes been suggested, but because of connivance by the oblast's party and soviet organs. The first and second secretaries of the Ukrainian Communist Party obkom, Z. Kovalchuk and V. Zhibrov, have repeatedly issued a warning that those who only uncover cases of overreporting and fail to prevent them should be called to account. Obviously, preventive measures are very necessary, but if law enforcement organs do not bring these abuses and crimes to light, who will do it for them?

For many years, I must admit, I have been tired of waging a constant battle on two fronts--against transgressors of the law and against those who themselves often pander to the offenders and then rise to their defense. I was even ready to leave my position as oblast prosecutor but I was appointed for another term: I intend to work conscientiously for the good of the country. It is precisely for this reason that I would like to say that the tendency toward local favoritism in some members of the Volyn party obkom and some raykoms and gorkoms has recently reached the stage where public prosecutor organs--and the courts to some extent--are being deprived of the opportunity to function normally. [Naydenko ends]

When this letter was ready for the press, our Kiev correspondent reported that the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee had read it and the article in PRAVDA entitled "Bonuses Luts'k Fashion." The facts they contained had been confirmed in the main.

It has been established that serious shortcomings still persist in Volyn Oblast in the fight against mercenary crimes and that the incidence of embezzlement, bribe taking, overreporting, and general deception has not been reduced. The offenders include a considerable number of officials, members of the CPSU, and local soviet deputies. Party committees often condone these cases. Particularly intolerable are the attempts by some of them to have charges dropped, as has been the case in Gorokhovskiy, Kamen-kashirskiy, and

other rayons. The party obkom bureau does not always give a principled appraisal of these cases.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has stressed that the shortcomings noted are a consequence of unsatisfactory work with cadres, serious mistakes in their selection and placement, a low standard of leadership of law enforcement organs, and poor organizational work by gorkoms and raykoms, and also by the party obkom, including V. Zhibrov, second secretary of the obkom, who is personally responsible for these areas of work. He failed to provide the party obkom bureau with objective information on the state of affairs in Vladimir-volynskiy Rayon, which aggravated the unhealthy situation in the party gorkom bureau. V. Zhibrov has twice been called to strict party account by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and obkom for serious shortcomings in his work, as well as for indiscretion and unscrupulousness in his dealings with people who have compromised themselves, has given assurances that he will change his attitude to matters with which he is entrusted, but has failed to draw the appropriate conclusions.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has released V. Zhibrov from his duties as second secretary of the party obkom for serious errors in cadre selection and placement and for tolerance and liberalism toward people who abuse their official position.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has drawn the attention of Z. Kovalchuk, first secretary of the party obkom, to his thoughtlessness, superficial approach, and flagrant violation of statutory requirements when examining the issue in the Lutsk party gorkom of bringing party charges against a number of members of the oblast court and prosecutor's office. The Central Committee has decided to countermand as unsubstantiated the resolution adopted by the Lutsk party gorkom bureau in accordance with which members of the Volyn prosecutor's office and court have been penalized. The party obkom bureau has been instructed to look into the question of the responsibility of those involved in preparing and approving the resolution on CPSU members A. Ostapchuk, Yu. Maksimchuk, T. Fidle, N. Matviyenko, and N. Naydenko. The Central Committee has also instructed the party obkom to investigate infringements of the law in Kamer-kashirskiy and Vladimir-volynskiy Rayons.

First Secretary Fired

PM061331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jul 87 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Plenum Held"]

[Text] Lutsk, 4 Jul--The plenum of the Volyn Ukrainian Communist Party Obkom which has been held here has examined organizational questions.

The plenum relieved Z. S. Kovalchuk of his duties as obkom first secretary for failing to cope with his duties.

L. I. Pavlenko, formerly secretary of the Kiev Obkom, has been elected first secretary.

In accordance with a resolution of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, V. I. Zhibrov has been relieved of his duties as Volyn Obkom second secretary for serious shortcomings in his work.

A. A. Titarenko, second secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, took part in the plenum's work.

/9599

CSO: 1800/755

MSSR BURO COMPLAINS OF LAX LAW ENFORCEMENT IN TRANSPORT SECTOR

Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 27 Mar 87 p 1

[Unattributed report under the rubric "At the Moldavian CP Central Committee": "The Law--One for All"; first paragraph is source introduction]

[Text] The Moldavian CP Central Committee Buro examined the question "On Violations of Socialist Law by Certain Workers of the Moldavian Administration of Internal Affairs for Transport (MUVDT) and the Kishinev Transport Procurator's Office, adduced by Yu. M. Gerasimov, candidate member of the Moldavian CP Central Committee, in a speech at the 5th Plenum of the Moldavian CP Central Committee."

In the resolution adopted it was noted that an inspection had confirmed that the criticism expressed at the 5th Plenum of the Moldavian CP Central Committee by Yu. M. Gerasimov, candidate member in the Moldavian CP Central Committee, concerning enforcement organs was correct. A fundamental improvement in the activities of the Moldavian Administration of Internal Affairs for Transport (headed by V. V. Bordenyuk) and the Kishinev Transport Procurator's Office (former procurator, A. A. Kardanyuk) did not occur, and incidents of gross violations of socialist law continue to take place. The militia and procurator's office workers, in carrying out their official duties and in their private life, frequently established illegal contacts with railroad workers and made use of their services, leading to a decrease in vigilance and a dulled perception of events taking place, as well as to an erasing of the boundaries between the guardians of the law and the people under their jurisdiction. Without sufficient foundation for it, the militia revealed a low level of professionalism and violated the law in carrying out the various examinations.

The shameless badgering of D. C. Illarionova, chief of the consolidated bureau for job placement in the Administration of the Moldavian Railroad, has occurred over a long period of time. The militia have tried to compromise her several times. Matters went so far that in February of this year there was a gross violation of socialist law and the constitutional principle of personal inviolability when, under the leadership of G. A. Morar, chief of the Department for the Struggle Against Theft of Socialist Property and Profiteering (BKSS) of the MUVDT, there was the dishonorable and undignified harassment of members of a commission of the Ministry of Communications that had arrived in Kishinev.

Instead of strict control over the actions of subordinates and the halting of violations of socialist law, the heads of the MUVDT and the Leninskiy Rayon Department of Internal Affairs, V. V. Bordenyuk and Yu. N. Chechuy, revealing a lack of principle and political immaturity, permitted the harassment of people who were guilty of nothing, something which in itself was a violation of the law. Their irresponsibility led to the badgering of people who had arrived in Kishinev on a job of state importance and to the commitment of an act of lawlessness.

Such incidents became possible as a result of weak supervision by the procurator over the legality of activities of organs of the transport militia. A few of them were pointed out in the article "Why is the Prosecutor Angry, or Is it Possible to Maintain the Law Illegally?" published in the newspaper SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA on 15 March of this year. The former Kishinev transport procurator, A. A. Karanyuk, because of political shortsightedness and arrogance, embarked on a path of grossly violating the laws in force. Instead of putting a decisive halt to the illegal activities of the transport militia in carrying out investigations of the Moldavian railroad, he tolerated them, revealed his inconsistency and bias, and did not take what he had begun to its logical end. While occupying this post, Kardanyuk showed unscrupulousness in devising ways of satisfying his daily personal needs; this led to moral deterioration of authority in the organ designated to carry out overall supervision in accordance with the law.

The MVD and the republic's procurator's office did not take measures to ensure a timely disclosure and to suppress these illegal activities. The role of the party organizations, communists and political organs of the administration of Internal Affairs for Transport was minimized in this matter.

The deficiencies and violations noted are a consequence of weak work in the selection, placement, and training of personnel. For many workers in law enforcement organs, the fulfillment of the resolutions of the 27th CPSU Congress, the January (1987) plenum of the party's Central Committee, and the resolution "On the Further Strengthening of Socialist Justice and Law and Order and Reinforcement of the Protection of the Rights and Legal Interests of Citizens" are still not felt to be obligatory. For this reason, excessive permissiveness, lack of control and irresponsibility continue to have a place in their action.

The Moldavian CP Central Committee acknowledged that the criticism expressed at the 5th Plenum of the Moldavian CP Central Committee by Yu. M. Gerasimov, candidate member of the Moldavian CP Central Committee, regarding the law enforcement organs was correct.

G. A. Morar, chief of a department in the BKhSS of the Moldavian Administration of Internal Affairs for Transport and member of the CPSU, was expelled from the party for gross violations of socialist law, political immaturity, personal irresponsibility, for negligence in carrying out his official duties, and for the insincerity he had displayed. His further tenure in this position was considered inappropriate.

The chief of the Moldavian Administration of Internal Affairs for Transport and member of the CPSU, V. V. Bordenyuk, was given a severe reprimand with a notation in his registration card for failure to take measures to guarantee the observance of socialist law in the administration he headed, for a lack of control over the actions of subordinates, and for the unjustified granting of permission for the harassment of officials on state business. His continued tenure in this position was considered inappropriate.

The former Kishinev transport procurator and member of the CPSU, A. A. Kardanyuk, was given a severe reprimand with a notation in his registration card for the low quality of the procurator's supervision over the lawfulness of the activities of the Moldavian Administration of Internal Affairs for Transport and the Administration of Railroads, for political shortsightedness, arrogance, crude miscalculations, for unscrupulousness in the struggle with the eradication of negative phenomena in transport and violations of socialist law, and for personal indiscretion in the satisfaction of everyday needs. After these actions were taken into consideration, he was dismissed from the post he held.

G. I. Lavranchuk, the republic's minister of internal affairs, was also sternly reprimanded for his failure to take effective measures for the decisive elimination of violations of socialist law in the organs of the MVD. He was warned that if this matter is not put in proper order, he will be held more strictly accountable to the party.

The procurator's office of the Moldavian SSR must demand that city and rayon procurators respond more sharply to any violation of socialist law and that they disclose the underlying causes and conditions and take measures to eliminate them.

The Moldavian CP Leninskiy Raykom (L. A. Lashchenova) was instructed to examine the question of the party responsibility of Yu. N. Chechuy and other communists who permitted violations of socialist law, and to discuss them in the primary party organizations. Measures must be taken to increase the role of the party organizations of these law enforcing organs in strengthening socialist law and order, and in the selection, placement and training of personnel. The level of exactingness toward them for the irreproachable fulfillment of their official duty must be raised.

The political department of the Moldavian SSR MVD (V. N. Nikolayev) should radically improve the work of the system's political organs in raising the level of political leadership, in strengthening the educational role on the subdivisions, and in the restructuring of all official activity. It should persistently teach them to work under conditions of an intensified democracy and openness, relying on the trust and support of the workers.

The procurator's office, ministries of internal affairs and justice, the supreme court of the republic, and the party gorkoms and raykoms should continually analyze the course of fulfilling the resolution of the CPSU Central Committee "On the Further Strengthening of Socialist Justice and Law and Order and Reinforcement of the Protection of the Rights and Legal Interests of Citizens," and take additional measures towards its unconditional implementation.

13174/12851

CSO: 1800/555

GEORGIAN SUPREME SOVIET DISCUSSES JUDICIAL PROBLEMS

Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 1 Mar 87 p 3

[GRUZINFORM report, under the "In the GSSR Supreme Soviet Presidium" rubric: "Our Work Requires Improvements"]

[Text] The GSSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has called for the republican Ministry of Justice to take decisive measures, without delay, to radically reorganize our work with People's Court assessors.

In its regular session, the Supreme Soviet discussed the problem of the efforts of this ministry to increase its activity in carrying out court functions, and in preventive explanatory work among the population.

The discussion turned out to be of a highly principled and demanding nature. An examination of the serious shortcomings and negligence in the work with People's Assessors showed that the republican People's Courts are making extremely poor use of their extensive potential for improving the work of the court and for enhancing the educative role of court activities. The deadlines and sequences established by law for taking part in examinations of court cases by People's Assessors are being flagrantly violated. They have manifested a low level of activity in legal proceedings. There are a great many instances when they have shown up for a legal proceeding with no prior familiarization with the materials of the cases, thus drastically reducing the quality and effectiveness of court examinations.

People's Assessors rarely report on their work to the electorate, labor collectives and in people's homes. Many of them in fact take part in no educational or prevention work. The work of many of the People's Assessors who function in People's Courts is characterized by formalism and passivity. They interact too little with labor collectives, public organizations and public agencies of the gainfully employed population in propagating legal knowledge and implementing a variety of educational measures.

Having acknowledged the deficient nature of the work of the GSSR Ministry of Justice to make People's Assessors more active, the Presidium has given it specific assignments in this regard. The commissions in the decree adopted to improve the work with People's Assessors were also given to district ispolkoms and city Soviets of People's Deputies. They were instructed to place

particular emphasis on improving the practice of People's Assessors making regularly-scheduled reports to the constituency and to labor collectives, and on expanding their role and becoming more active in strengthening discipline, order and organization, and preventing legal infractions.

A pointed and impartial talk was also held at the session while discussing the question of shortcomings and negligence in the compiling of annual statistical reports on the organizational work of local GSSR Soviets of People's Deputies. In qualifying them as serious defects in the overall mass organizational work of the Soviets, the Presidium established that this work is still not meeting the Party's requirements for reconstruction and acceleration. As regards this, the ispolkoms of all local Soviets of People's Deputies have been charged with conducting a painstaking analysis and a critical assessment of their activities, and with making each staff worker more personally responsible for observing laws and regulations and for eradicating the wanton practice of tolerating misrepresentations in book-keeping and a formal, bureaucratic attitude to organizational work.

During the session, the Presidium examined measures for having GSSR Soviets of People's Deputies implement the requirements of the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum. Using the Plenum's directives as a starting point, the Presidium determined specific tasks aimed at developing democratic principles in the work of the Soviets and their executive agencies, for making full and effective use of the authority granted them, and for exercising greater control over the work of leading personnel by hearing them out at Soviets' sessions and permanent commissions and by expanding the practice of holding Deputies' inquiries. In particular, it was deemed advisable to make it a rule that every chairman of a Soviet of People's Deputies ispolkom, after having been selected for the post, must expound his moral and vital credo to the deputies and report on how he intends to structure his work with people and organize the activities of the ispolkom staff so as to successfully solve the problems facing the Soviets. It was also decided to establish a procedure for inviting deputies of the previous convocation to the initial sessions of local Soviets for the purpose of exchanging work experience and conducting a distinctive passing of the baton to the newly-selected deputies.

The Presidium of the GSSR Supreme Soviet also took up a number of other questions, and adopted an appropriate decree for each of them.

12659

CSO: 1830/551

ELECTION RESOLUTION OF GEORGIAN SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM

Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 29 Mar 87 pp 1, 2

[Decree of the Presidium of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet on Conducting an Experiment Involving Elections to Local GSSR Soviets of People's Deputies in Multi-Candidate Electoral Districts, issued 3 March 1987]

[Text] In order to implement the directives of the 27th CPSU Congress for bringing about further improving election practices, the Presidium of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet resolves:

1. To hold elections to rayon, city (rayon subordination) and rural Soviets of People's Deputies for Multi-candidate Electoral Districts within the Tsiteltskaroyvskiy Rayon, as an experiment during the upcoming elections to local Georgian SSR Soviets of People's Deputies, 20th Convocation.

2. That elections in multi-candidate electoral districts shall be held in accordance with the statutes of the Georgian SSR Law "Elections to Local Georgian SSR Soviets of People's Deputies" and this decree.

3. To establish that the number of multi-candidate electoral districts is determined by elections to the rayon Soviet by the GSSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and by elections to the city Soviet (rayon subordination) and the rural Soviets of People's Deputies by the executive committee of the rayon Soviet by uniting existing electoral districts as delimited by their total numerical strength, as provided for by Article 13 of the GSSR Law "Elections to Local GSSR Soviets of People's Deputies". These electoral districts can be formed within the boundaries of individual population centers, microrayons, blocks, streets and other divisions of these population centers.

Executive committees of corresponding Soviets of People's Deputies, as delimited by the overall number of deputies up for election to the Council, will set the number of deputies elected to each multi-candidate district taking the numerical strength of the population of a given district into account.

4. That the number of candidates nominated as deputies for a multi-candidate electoral district should generally be greater than the number of candidates per electoral district.

5. That when nominating candidates for deputies for a multi-candidate electoral district, district pre-election conferences will be held by various public organization agencies, labor collectives, general meetings, in-home gatherings of citizens and assemblies of military service personnel units [chast]. Conference chairmen are to be elected at the same time candidates are nominated as deputies. The district pre-election conference is to be convened by rayon and city public organization agencies.

That the district pre-election conference will discuss the nominees for district candidacy and decide about supporting them or, when necessary, and with the agreement of the organizations nominating candidates for deputy, will make changes in the list of district candidate nominees. The district pre election conference will then approve the list and submit it to the district electoral commission in order to register the candidates for deputy. The minutes recording the nominations of candidates for deputy are to be handed in at the same time.

If all candidates for deputy from an electoral district are nominated by a single public organization organ, labor collective, general meeting, in-home assembly of citizens or gathering of units [chast] of military personnel, no district pre-election conference is to be held.

6. Candidates for deputy who are nominated in compliance with the GSSR Law "Elections to Local GSSR Soviets of People's Deputies" and with this decree are to be registered with the appropriate district electoral commission by submission of the district pre-election conference or else a public organization agency, labor collective, general meeting, in-home assembly of citizens or gathering of units [chast] of military personnel.

Candidates for deputy are to be registered, having at hand the documents called for by the GSSR Law "Elections to GSSR Local Soviets of People's Deputies" along with the minutes of the district pre-election conference.

7. A uniform statement is to be drawn up regarding the registration of candidates for deputy in a multi-candidate election district. The statement will list all the deputy candidates registered in an electoral district in alphabetical order.

The decision to approve the text of the ballot-paper is to be made by the district electoral commission.

The list of deputy candidates for each electoral district is to be published in accordance with established procedure.

8. Voting is to be conducted for all candidates for deputy who are registered and included on the ballot-paper. When filling out the ballot-paper, the voter is to strike off the surnames of those candidates whom he is voting against, leaving the remaining surnames.

9. Those candidates for deputy who receive over half the votes cast by a district's registered voters are to be considered as having been elected in a multi-candidate electoral district.

If the vote results in the number of deputies elected being greater than the number of candidates for an electoral district, then the deputies receiving a smaller number of votes are to be considered as having been elected to the post of reserve deputy of the corresponding Soviet of People's Deputies. Reserve deputies are to be given a certificate of their having been elected.

In case a tie vote makes it impossible to determine which deputies have been elected, the proper rayon, city and rural electoral commission will charge the district electoral commission with holding a repeat vote for these deputy candidates in the electoral district within two weeks.

10. When a deputy is removed from the ranks of the Soviet of People's Deputies, his mandate is to be transferred to the reserve deputy who has received a greater number of votes than the other reserve deputies for a given district. The authority of this reserve deputy in his role as a Deputy of the Soviet is to be recognized by the corresponding Soviet through a submission of the Soviet Credentials Committee.

11. Reserve deputies will use their right to a deliberative vote to participate in the work of the Soviet of People's Deputies and its organs, and enjoy the right of the inviolability of a deputy and the guarantees of protection of the labor rights provided the deputies of Soviets of People's Deputies by law.

12. The principles set forth in this decree are to be introduced as experimental norms and will be in effect for the term of office of local GSSR Soviets of People's Deputies of the 20th Convocation.

13. The department dealing with questions of the work of the Soviets is to summarize the results of elections in multi-candidate electoral districts and introduce appropriate suggestions to the GSSR Supreme Soviet Presidium in June 1987.

Results of the experiment will be reported in January 1990.

12659

CSO: 1830/551

ROLE OF AMERICAN WORKERS IN USSR IN 1920'S DESCRIBED

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 May 87 p 2

[Article by P. Voroshilov and R. Lynev: "To Russia With Love"]

[Text] After the victory of October thousands of internationalists arrived in our country in order to render assistance. V.I. Lenin appraised in this way one of the victories won in the course of the revolution and civil war: "We have won back from England, France, and America their workers and peasantry."

The Force of Example

We conquered not only by arms, but primarily by the force of example. How did this work? For the start we will cite only one figure. In 1918 alone, about 1 million emigrants applied to U.S. authorities to depart for Russia. Many "100 percent" Americans and people of other nationalities came together.

From replete and happy America--to hungry Russia. From the New World--as if back, to the Old. But in a large way--forward.

But if the thought of ruling classes changed only slowly in that direction, then the movement to support Russia gathered strength in the lower working classes. In March 1921, the Central Committee of the United Communist Party of Germany declared: "Thousands of engineers, technicians, agronomists, and teachers expressed a willingness to depart for Russia. Tens of thousands of qualified workers prepared to depart." However soon the government of Germany sent out of the country the Soviet representative, N. Fedorovsky, who was occupied with questions of emigration.

Even the U.S. Government, which dispatched to Russia thousands of these emigrants who were considered "subversive elements," manifested a noticeable uneasiness. In connection with this, in February 1920, V.I. Lenin answered a question of the information agency "Universal Service":

"We have accepted them. We are not afraid of revolutionaries here. We, in general, are not afraid of anyone and, if America is still afraid of some hundreds or thousands of its own fellow citizens, we are prepared to begin negotiations about accepting all and any terrible citizen of America."

By 1921 the military blockade surrounding the RSFSR was practically broken. But the other--economic blockade--remained. How could we overcome ruin, hunger, technical and economic backwardness under these conditions?

The Tenth Party Congress (March 1921) gave an answer: Along the path of NEP--new economic policy, which provided for allowing private, including foreign, capital in the economy--on a concessional basis.

But capital by means of capital--in Russia there were such interests, but meanwhile in the summer of 1921 the newspaper ECONOMIC LIFE estimated that the wave of laboring, industrial immigrants to the country in a short time significantly exceeded 1,200,000 persons.

What privileges was the Soviet Government able to grant these settlers? Minimal ones.

"Foreign workers should know the truth, that they, having migrated to us, will experience privation and hardship," emphasized V.I. Lenin.

Only the truth! This became one of the fundamentals of the Soviet Government's immigration policy at that time.

Already by mid-May 1921, more than 100 qualified auto mechanics from Ford factories, headed by engineer-immigrant D. Adams, entered the Moscow automobile factory AMO to work on organizing production.

Members of an American professional union of tailors turned out to be light on their feet. Using funds they collected (\$32,000), they purchased equipment: 170 "Singer" sewing machines, presses, electric motors, conveyor belts for them, as well as scissors, needles, soap and food products. Having supplied all the members of the cooperative established by them, the "III International Tailors' Workshop, they accompanied them to Moscow where they equipped the first mechanized workshop for 600 workers, organizing the labor according to the Taylor system. At that same time German immigrants began their own work in Kolomensk engine building factory. Other groups from Germany, who arrived with equipment, established production near Moscow, in Saratov province on a socialist basis.

"Lenin," "America," "California," "John Reed," "Solidarity," "New World," "Farmer," "III International"--these were the names of communes either created by immigrants or with their participation.

A particularly noticeable role in the propaganda of progressive agricultural methods was played at that time by the Harold Ver tractor detachment, managed by American workers. Eleven of its warriors along with 21 tractors and spare parts, 2 automobiles, 20 harrowers of various types, 14 disc sowing machines, complete equipment for maintaining a repair workshop, a small power plant, food provisions, tents, medical supplies and 12,000 feet of training films, agitated the peasantry on tractors and large-scale farming.

But it is necessary to return once again to Moscow in the spring and summer of 1921. Here at that time was Sebald Rutgers, a Dutch engineer, who had already been in Soviet Russia and met with V.I. Lenin. He offered suggestions on how to raise the assistance of foreign laborers to a new level in the country of unions. Rutgers proposed directing this help toward creating and developing a coal-metallurgical base in the eastern part of the country. Not to yield the mines of Kuzbassa and Ural factories as a concession to foreign capital, but to create on their basis and with the participation of foreign workers and specialists an autonomous Soviet enterprise, this was the final economic goal. Increasing the output of coal made possible improvements in the work of the Siberian railroad transportation, setting in motion coke production which helped revive the Ural blast furnaces, thereby stimulating the development of the chemical industry in Siberia.

Proletarian Concession

S. Rutgers tried to interest engineer L. Martens and two leaders of the organization "Industrial Workers of the World," B. Haywood and G. Calvert, with his ideas. They were supportive and on 12 June, Rutgers, Calvert, and Martens sent a letter to Lenin which set forth the essence of the undertaking.

Having received the letter on 20 June, Lenin answered on the morning of the 22d.

"In essence, I am in favor if American workers will bring with them:

- "1) Food provisions for 2 years;
- "2) Clothing for that period;
- "3) Implements for work...

"To get things going, immediately prepare a plan for the enactment of STO [Council for Labor and Defense] and bring it today (if you have time before 3 o'clock), and we will decide in STO this very day at 6:00..."

"Immediately," "today"--this urgency is prominent in all of Lenin's letters relating to the project. Urgency and at the same time attention to each concrete detail of the undertaking.

Concerning the concrete "this very day" 22 June, that is on this very same day (on the same! not giving cause to cool down, or get bogged down in paper and agreements!), STO, under the chairmanship of Lenin, enacted the resolution "On American Industrial Emigration," which included a number of points concerning the suggestion by the Rutgers' group.

Rutgers with his group of assistants set out for the Urals and Kuzbass without delay. Inspection of factories and mines showed that it would be possible to rapidly bring them out of their neglected state. Particularly in Kemerovo, where in view of the proximity of a railroad, waterway, and a reliable food supply base, it was decided to found the center of the future colony. At the same time an essential circumstance was cleared up: as much as news about the

initiative of Rutgers' group was perceived with interest in the Siberian revolutionary committee, the initiatives received an equally cool reception by several old specialists, who were accustomed to doing business with foreigners of an entirely different type than internationalist Sebald Rutgers, who called the future colony the "Proletarian Concession."

Autonomous Industrial Colony--"AIC Kuzbass," thus was it named. About the end of 1921 and into 1922, the question about AIC was discussed more than 20 times in STO; Lenin personally received the initiators of its creation. Again and again agreements between AIC and STO were thoroughly investigated, and the business was more precisely defined. Lenin himself personally worked out even the obligations, which should have been known and approved before the colonists' journey to Kuzbass.

The fundamentals of the enterprise were laid down toward the beginning of 1922. It was directly subordinate to STO. It was given considerable credit. It was stipulated which enterprises found themselves within its command. Management was set up simultaneously in Kemerovo, Moscow, and New York. The New York affiliate was responsible for forming and sending groups of volunteers to Kuzbass. In order to continually inform the American public about the course of affairs in Siberia, a special "Kuzbass Bulletin" was published in New York.

During the winter, spring, and summer of 1922, the ranks of volunteers from the United States began to swell. Their motto: "We are transforming Siberia into the new Pennsylvania." They were well received by party organs and the local population. People representing 27 nationalities created their own "Small International" here on the banks of the Tom. That is how businesses developed here, and today, after many years, the interest put forward is not archival.

All this is certain: a sturdy people was selected for work in Siberia. The difficulties of the first tent-barracks period were endured honestly. But this unavoidable period of difficult times was not long, and already in the beginning of 1923 "Kuzbass Bulletin" published a letter from the 12-year-old daughter of miner Ony Preykshas to friends in the United States, in which together with other news was communicated:

"Carpenters built us a large communal house for 150 persons. It is still not completely finished, but we and several others are already living in it. The dining room will accommodate 300 people. From a distance it looks like a New York hotel."

Another adult colonist Ruth Kennel (who represented a prototype of the heroine of T. Dreiser's sketch "Ernita") wrote to the New York daily NATION: "I think that our library might compare with a library of a small city in America."

Some 32,000 acres of land, 11 tractors, and pedigree cattle brought by the colonists became the basis for creating a model secondary economy, for supplying the colonists, foreign and Russian, with necessary products.

Active on-the-job training in Red Army units and in surrounding villages, political disputes, sporting competitions, artistic amateur performances (including two choirs--Finnish and German)--all of this spoke of a life that was full-blooded and rich.

Efficiency and Scale

In comparison with the rest of the mines, coal output from AIC personnel increased while its cost decreased. This was achieved, first, thanks to progressive foreign techniques, and second, to the qualifications of miners, who were not sparing in sharing experience with Russian colleagues.

Of course there were problems. For example, several of the American workers, who had entered the organization "Industrial Workers of the World," professed their views toward discipline and democracy. With regard to each "wobbly," as they were called, they were ready to arrange a meeting. They were dissatisfied that the bosses, so they claimed, from whom it was impossible to make a living at home in the States, were even here in Siberia. And here still--in accordance with NEP--they talked about profits and bringing in all 17 categories in payment for labor!

A critical reduction of the management apparatus together with a simple and reliable accounting system advantageously distinguished the AIC from "Kuzbass Trust," where the staff grew in disproportion to coal output, paper work multiplied, and the financial situation became complicated.

This circumstance soon affected the fate of "AIC-Kuzbass." Meanwhile things soared for the "AIC'ers." In 1923, in addressing the May Day meeting of Russian workers, S. Rutgers said:

"The sole wealth which we want to take away from here is our unity, our friendship and recognition that we are leaving behind factory smokestacks and actively functioning mines."

All of this was right: a coke-chemical plant was set in motion in less than a year. And concerning the feelings about which S. Rutgers had spoken, they remained long in the hearts of many "AIC'ers." "To depart from Kuzbass," one of them confessed, "means to discard an interesting book without having read it."

The lessons of the AIC, its experience also proved useful in the construction of Kuznetsk and Turksib, to where several colonists departed. Ruth Kennel, who wrote letters to Kuzbass up until the end of her life, recalled how the Siberian period was the very best time of her life.

Such was the force of the workers' solidarity, of a working fraternity of peoples from various countries.

But the truth would not be complete, if you told only about this force and were silent about the other, which had already manifested itself then in all its unsightliness. This is what I am speaking about. From the very

first steps AIC established an enterprise so viable, that already in 1924 the question had arisen about its expansion and subordinating to it all mines of Southern Kuzbass, which were under the management of "Kuzbass Trust."

The leadership of trust, which had significant support in the center, did not want to yield authority to the "Varangians." Especially as the organization of their business--in the productive and social sphere--was of a sort of crisis style and followed the methods of the "Kuzbass Trust," where business went badly.

But how badly? Actually this came to light only after it had been decided to turn over management of the basin to the AIC leadership: it turned out that "Kuzbass Trust" had such enormous debts, that all of AIC's profits were insufficient for their payment.

S. Rutgers undertook desperate attempts to obtain credit, to improve business, to preserve the original autonomous status of the colony, which was approved by Lenin, with its direct subordination to STO, thus permitting resolution of questions without red tape by various intervening levels.

And then misfortune. The death of a close person and loyal assistant to AIC, B. Kornblit, and the need to take care of his own health compelled S. Rutgers at the time to convey concerns about reconstructing the basin with its own deputies, who in essence brought with them the same order which prevailed in "Kuzbass Trust." The swelling, as if in yeast, management apparatus was not simplified, but, the reverse, became more complicated, confusing the accounting system, and delaying the acceptance of decisions through multi-lateral approvals.

Having clashed with a similar style still in founding a sewing factory in Moscow, the immigrant-internationalists turned directly to Lenin for assistance. After giving the Moscow leadership direction to immediately take necessary measures, he noted with annoyance: "Bureaucratism and intolerable negligence have been manifest in the entire business."

Having found out from IZVESTIYA that Harold Ver's tractor detachment had run into analogous difficulties, Lenin also intervened personally, providing directions for urgent assistance to the internationalists and adding: "This, obviously, is a business example; business assistance; and we have bureaucrats without end!"

By that time the country was already living without Lenin. AIC merged with the general system of management.

If you depart today for Kemerovo and go up to Red mountain to the place where the center of the colony was located, from there, from the high coast of Tom, the entire city will be in view, particularly its factory region dominated by the veteran Coke-Chemical.

He is able to recollect many things. We like to say that much earlier than the military alliance with America against the common enemy, fascism, another

alliance was concluded--the working peoples from two countries: USSR and the United States. It was then that the phrase originated: "With American efficiency, with Bolshevik scale." This signified the highest class in work, organization, and management.

Yes, the world since then has become more complex. Widespread and multifaceted international cooperation has become an important factor in our development. Recently, life itself has been leading to the creation of mixed firms, for example. But we will not forget--and today, on the eve of May Day, it is just as appropriate to recall--that the very first steps in this direction were made on the basis of working people's solidarity. It was on this basis that traditions, principles, and forms of cooperation were born for which it is still too early to be put into a museum.

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PHILOSOPHER CRITICIZES LACK OF SERIOUS ATTENTION TO AESTHETICS

Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 28 Apr 87 p 3

[Article by Nikolay Ivanovich Kiyashchenko, doctor of philosophical sciences, professor, under the "Problems and Opinions--Direct Speech" rubric: "The Aesthetics of Reorganization and the Reorganization of Aesthetics"; first paragraph is biographical introduction]

[Text] Nikolay Ivanovich Kiyashchenko, doctor of philosophical sciences, professor, leading scientific associate of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Philosophy. Author of 10 books, including "The Essence of the Beautiful", "The Theory of Reflection and Problems of Aesthetics", "Art in the Struggle for Man", as well as articles in collections, newspapers and magazines. Over the years, in the newspaper SOVETSKAYA KULTURA, he has published some 10 major articles on questions of the theory and practice of cultural construction in our country.

Oh, how difficult so many things are for us after periods of social stagnation, complacency and illusion, as if under socialism everything proceeds just as it ought to, and in accordance with theory.

The need to reorganize and accelerate social and economic development is related to the fact that in the recent past we lived in a world of many false truths, often being satisfied by what we had accomplished and paying no heed to how it was accomplished. We forgot that in the final analysis it is the productivity and quality of man's public labor which determine and give evidence of motion forward or of marking time. In fact neither reorganization or acceleration are causes per se. They are the results of previously allowed digressions from the purposeful activity of society and each Soviet individual in seeking the best alternative for incorporating socialist theory and socialist goals and ideals into the real life of society.

Thus I am sad at times (unfortunately, I can cite many examples from many areas of our life which sadden me), even though I maintain my faith in the fact that the powers of reason, meaning the powers of cultural, or man's reason are, in the words of K. Marx, in a state of "absolute formative motion", i.e. are gaining the upper hand in the creative man who is constantly improving, and who never rests on his laurels. My faith has now developed into

the assurance that, equipped with the latest practical and theoretical requisites for reorganization, we can bridge the gap between science and life, and between aesthetics and culture.

The scientific idea or theory has been perceived by all past and even by many contemporary thinkers as a harmony or disharmony in the world. This is also why genuine philosophical wisdom, while it has not yielded to conditionally changing into the verbal garb of "whatsoever you wish", "it shall be done" and "at your service", has forced itself despite this into an essentially anticommunist model of thinking and behavior which often penetrates into our flesh and blood.

So that our misfortunes, contradictions and negative phenomena--and it's time we admitted this--in large part result from the backwardness of our world outlook. Hence our red tape, embezzlement of state property, corruption, careerism, speculation, self-seeking and petty bourgeois psychology....We have failed to put the requisite time, effort, or desire into uniting enlightenment with education, education with culture or culture with our convictions. This is not the least reason why, as many people see it, the distance between a knowledge of Marxism and the Marxist world view has increased vastly, and even more the gulf between a knowledge of politics and an individual's political standards, between a knowledge of the principles of communist morality and the morality of a culture, and between the number of books a person has read, and films he has seen and his artistic and aesthetic standards.

Naturally there are many reasons and persons who are to blame for our spiritual and moral sickness. Both our culture and our philosophy are at fault here, especially my own science of aesthetics. When did we aestheticians seriously begin to concern ourselves with the aesthetic interests, needs and capabilities of the individual? Only when we began to be overwhelmed by the consumer element, when the highly-educated and highly-placed (on the socialist ladder) bourgeoisie began to set the fashion and to control social processes, frequently directing the results of these processes into its own (not our) kitchen-garden, to lovingly stroke its pocket when the state pocket became empty, to relate to the law in accordance with the ancient Ukrainian saying: "The law is a pole which points any way you aim it." Has aesthetics really been struggling, when all this was going on, so that socialist theory, socialist ideals and the man of the socialist world could be realized and shaped, raised up and developed in accordance with the requirements of perfection, harmony and beauty? Alas, no. The conceptions of perfection and improvement, and even those of harmony, moderation, beauty were examined, but only on the theoretical plane, no practical application or use having been made of them.

A storm raged in the teacup of Soviet aesthetics from the end of the 1950's till the mid-1960's, after which began the complacency, which was promoted in every way possible by the forces controlling the spiritual processes and development of this branch of philosophical knowledge. Outwardly everything seemed as if it were perfectly fine: booklets on aesthetics, most of which no one bought, were published and are now published as defenses of doctoral and candidates' theses, and talking-shops and conferences are assembled. But all this is usually somewhere above life in the ethereal realms of the

aestheticizing spirit, in the temples of categories, conceptions and historical events. And the real processes of spiritually impoverishing multitudes of people and drastically lowering the artistic level of craftsmanship, the bureaucratization of the process for controlling culture, the headlong growth in the number of people employed, as they say, "making baskets", the predominance, in all our approaches to the activities of people, collectives, institutions and enterprises, of quantity over quality and the almost complete disregard in research of the very appearance of "quality"--it was as if none of this was of any concern to us.

Perfection, improvement and quality are conceptions, and the phenomena which stand behind them are certainly, it seems to me, of an aesthetic order. But not only has aesthetics taken no interest in the problem of quality vis-a-vis the totality of the results of man's activities, but it seems to me not to have even been concerned with much success with the quality of people's artistic endeavors. It is no secret that at present there are essentially no profoundly scientifically substantiated criteria for aesthetic evaluation in existence in our art: a great deal of what was more often than not subjective, conjunctural [konyunkturno] and complimentary has been eroded. And this is the direct path to mass pseudoculture with its stereotypes, cliches and dullness which become an aesthetic event. In this regard, aesthetics is failing to sound the alarm. And in all seriousness, there is nowhere for it to sound an alarm. Our country has no aesthetic journal (though three dog-raising journals are published here), and philosophical publications have been strongly barricaded from militant, effective aesthetics. Philosophical-aesthetic and artistic criticism have essentially disappeared from our life. And they are in fact the advanced front of our science, they are most flexible and encroach the farthest into our lives.

This is the sort of paradoxical and deplorable situation which has come about in the Soviet people's attitude to labor, which we often tend to call communistic: millions and millions of people expend their energies, nerves, and time for nothing, working in warehouses where over R20 billion in finished goods needed by no one have stacked up. And more is poured into this gigantic basket every year. Naturally there are a great many objective reasons here for imperfections in planning, economic ties and developmental disproportions. But there are no fewer subjective reasons and human factors (retarded, stifled, unexcited, undeveloped and suppressed) involved here. In *Das Kapital*, K. Marx wrote that the degree of skill of the available population at any given moment comprises a precondition for aggregate production and, consequently, the main accumulation of wealth. To be sure, for this we need to develop and educate an expert and give him an opportunity to manifest his craftsmanship, in order for it to be properly assessed. Is there really nothing here for aesthetics to do?

There has hitherto been a firm conviction in aesthetics, however, that the process of transforming science into a direct productive force has no relation whatsoever to aesthetics. I have on more than one occasion been ridiculed in the USSR Academy of Sciences Aesthetics Department when attempting to talk about transforming aesthetics into a direct productive force for society or insisted on the need to examine the dialectics of society's aesthetic and artistic culture. "This is not a scientific problem," they said in reproach.

While we laughed, our socialist friends on the Bulgarian State Soviet (1976) and the Czechoslovakia Federal Assembly (1984), basing their arguments on our theoretical developments, prepared and approved national programs and aesthetic education systems for their countries' populations. And we all think of aesthetic training as mere trifle, an amusement. It is true that at the end of 1985, a state working commission was set up by order of the USSR Minister of Culture on the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the purpose of which was to develop a unified state program of aesthetic education for the population of the USSR. I was also made a member of this commission. I am convinced that the commission's fast-working, active and fruitful efforts, the creation of a system of aesthetic education and the complete material and spiritual support of this process will greatly accelerate the process of improving socialism as it advances towards communism, which improvement will require no subsequent reorganization or acceleration on our part. I fear only that we will have a long wait prior to this time: having been initiated in the USSR Ministry of Culture, this reorganization has postponed the commission's work for the time being. And the apprehensions that a serious matter can be supplanted by trifles are not without grounds.

This trifling reorganization is already having an effect on aesthetics, which has been driven into the chimney corner as it is. For example, Goskomizdat [USSR Council of Ministers State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade], which is changing its publishing houses over to cost-accounting, is orienting them towards publishing profitable books. So what is to happen with the publication of books of a theoretical and generalizing nature? I almost fainted when the people from the Iskusstvo Publishing House (which by the way has perhaps the only professional aesthetics-oriented editorial board) told me that they were no longer interested in generalizing works, particularly collections. They told me to submit material on particular questions, but without generalizations, i.e. the aesthetics of everyday life, family life, material needs etc. It is odd that the Nauka Publishing House, in its philosophical literature editorial office, doesn't have a single, even semi-professional aesthetics editor. The most simple and primitive manuscripts on aesthetics are sent there, where they are sent to a non-specialist who is sometimes simply an ignoramus, and then they stand up in defense of the reviewer if the authors protest his ignorant comments. They can also be sent to a "professional manuscript burglar". Then you can be sure that there won't be anything left of the work of the authors' collective and the scientific council's recommendations but "little horns and little hoofs". This is generally why they particularly love to treat aesthetics manuscripts with insolence and then ask why all aesthetics writers write the same. The answer is because all editors edit the same.

If, through the centuries, philosophers' ideas had been refined and placed under a common denominator, humanity would be bereft of a history of philosophical thought. The reorganizing of philosophy and aesthetics can only signify their emancipation and the directing of their efforts towards examining and solving the fundamental problems of man's existence in the world, the fate of which is in our human hands. Philosophy is not a fire brigade. And if philosophy is digging up that which is already known and apprehended, it means that a situation has been created in people's existence

and in their spiritual life wherein philosophy can develop no further. A philosophy without discussions, without polemics, disputes and the opportunity to express differing points of view within the framework of a scientific Weltanschauung will ineluctably mark time, occupying itself with scholastics and the formulation of rhetorical slogans and catchwords.

But discussion need not turn into a game of giveaway. This is precisely what occurred recently in the journal VOPROSY FILOSOFII, which initiated a discussion of the problem of contradiction. But someone didn't like the pointed posing of the question of contradictions under socialism, and the philosophers failed to express their opinions as they wound up the discussion. The journal KHUDOZHNIK fared no better. In last year's fifth issue it published an extremely unconvincing article by A. Zhukova, entitled "Drawing and the Student's World Outlook" which, without any serious reasoning whatsoever, attacks the program for providing school children with aesthetic training, using B. M. Nemenskiy's fine art. Instead of anything intelligible being offered in its place, it was labelled as "extracurricular". There was, alas, no place for either the author of the program nor the teacher who achieved satisfactory results with this program to respond to this attack, which was redolent of the conservatism of 30 years ago.

Philosophy is not only dialectical, but is ideological as well. This is why it must not merely contain "milestones" towards which everyone is obliged to strive to reach and which everyone is obligated to contemplate, to quote and to repeat. For this is a dead-end road. Every philosopher is by vocation a genuinely unique phenomenon. And hardly anyone has the right to judge whether a philosopher has or has not reached maturity. This is all the more true when the verdict is handed over by someone who has in no way whatsoever proven his right to judge.

I feel the true way to bring philosophy and life closer together is by learning to value the opinions of philosophers, not by simply ignoring them, as is now the custom.

In the meantime it turns out that all the major events in the spiritual life of our society occur as if either our country had no philosophers in our country, or as if they generally had nothing to do with this spiritual life. If a cultural fund is being established, if plans for the general build-up of Moscow are being discussed, if theater or films are being reorganized, there are either no philosophers or almost none there, or they have to involve themselves on their own. And then they ask why V. G. Belinskiy, N. A. Dobrolyubov and N. G. Chernyshevskiy could direct the process of the Russian people's cultural development, but contemporary philosophers and aestheticians cannot? Can it be that they have no desire to do so? They both can and want to, they have the strength to do so and they possess the knowledge and culture to do so. But they have no real rostrum for changing society's aesthetic situation.

So in this sense, aesthetics needs reorganization like we need air, for it to have even the smallest chance to provide an understanding of and thus prevent a preponderance of pseudoculture and the stereotyping of art, to reveal the genuinely human nature of all forms of creativity, to develop people gifted with continuous perfection and self-improvement, and to prevent those situations which necessitate reorganization and acceleration.

BULGAKOV'S 'HEART OF A DOG' INTRODUCED IN MONTHLY

Moscow ZNAMYA in Russian No 6, Jun 87 pp 73-76

[Introduction by V. Lakshin to "Sobachye serdtse" [Heart of a Dog] by Mikhail Bulgakov, under the rubric "Literary Heritage"]

[Text] "Heart of a Dog" is the last significant prose work by the author of "The Master and Margarita" that is still unknown to our readers.

The novella ["povest"] was written in January-March 1925 and the manuscript was accepted by the almanac NEDRA, but was put off from issue to issue while Bulgakov, expecting publication, even concluded an agreement with the Art Theater for a stage version of "Heart of a Dog." But the gradually changing literary-social situation, the intolerant aggressiveness of RAPP [Russian Association of Proletarian Writers] and its critics, and the attacks on Bulgakov, which intensified after the October 1926 premiere of "Days of the Turbins," blocked the novella's road to print. In early 1927 even MKhAT [Moscow Art Theater] broke its agreement with Bulgakov to stage the novella. For long years "Heart of a Dog" was left lying in the writer's archive.

We now have before us one more "Moscow" novella by Bulgakov, a very typical one for his brilliant pen, where social satire emerges from a carefully drawn urban setting and fantasy is interwoven with highly naturalistic everyday life. This inclination of Bulgakov's talent to combine everyday life, fantasy, and satire had already been noted by the first critics of the novellas "Devilry" and "The Fatal Eggs"; it was to be developed even further in the fantastic-realistic world of "The Master and Margarita."

The critics, including V. Shklovskiy, who proved a poor prophet for Bulgakov, at one time pointed out the writer's dependence on the science fiction traditions of Wells with his "Food of the Gods." There would perhaps have been better grounds to recall the domestic experiments that were close to this genre, Al. Tolstoy's "Aelita" and Yevg. Zamyatin's "We." But it would be even more correct to bear in mind Bulgakov's dependence on the classical tradition not, needless to say, as a commanding hand but rather as a guiding star. First mention should be made of the gloomy-cheerful fantasy of Gogol and the satire of Saltykov-Shchedrin.

Bulgakov read "Dead Souls" at the age of 9 and never afterward was he able to free himself from the magic language of this great artist. It is not accidental that the shadow of Pavel Ivanovich Chichikov wanders around NEP-era Moscow in one of his 1920's stories. As for Shchedrin, on a writer's questionnaire devoted to the memory of the author of "History of One City," Bulgakov stated: "Saltykov had an exceptional influence on me and, being young, I decided to adopt an ironic attitude toward my surroundings. When I grew up a terrible truth was revealed to me: the dashing atamans, wayward "Clemantines," hand-stickers and slipper-makers, Major Pryshch, and the scoundrel Ugryum-Burcheyev outlived Saltykov-Shchedrin." In his realistic prose and his unique genre of satirical utopia Bulgakov did his own reinterpretation of Shchedrin's satirical method, without his bile, as he did Gogol's fantasy, without the gloomy reflections.

Contemporaries and acquaintances of Bulgakov found many recognizable, specific features of the time and milieu in "Heart of a Dog." In the features of everyday life and unusual personality of Professor Preobrazhenskiy they recognized his mother's brother, Nikolay Mikhaylovich Pokrovskiy, who was a prominent obstetrician-gynecologist in the clinic of the famous Moscow Professor V. F. Snegirev. N. M. Pokrovskiy, incidentally, like the hero of the novella, lived on the corner of Prechistenka and Obukhov Lane (today the corner of Kropotkin Street and Chisty Lane). And not far away, on Obukhov Lane, Bulgakov lived at one time and, as can easily be ascertained, drew the urban landscape of these places from nature. In whose years Prechistenka was the focus of an intellectual, artistic, and professorial circle, sometimes with a conservative caste flavor. Bulgakov himself lived and found his friends in the lanes between Prechistenka and Ostozhenka, in the back ways of the Arbat, but his view of this milieu was for the most part soberly ironic. The burning issues of the day suggested themes of the novella: the features of the housing crisis in Moscow, which created the age of "consolidations" and the specter of the all-powerful building committee; plus fashionable subjects of the 1920's which were discussed in the newspapers and in debates, such as the problem of "rejuvenation" and sex, talk about "eugenics" which promised astounding opportunities to "improve" and "correct" imperfect human nature, and the experiments of Professor N. K. Koltsov and his school.

All this, it seemed, was in the spirit of the radical changes of people's whole way of life, which had been blasted apart by the revolution--unheard-of opportunities were imagined for producing new "human material." In light of these quests it is easier to understand the writer's concept, which emerged against the fully concrete historical background of Moscow in the 1920's but had in mind larger and more long-term, as to significance, problems.

At least two profound and critical ideas that are elaborated in the novella have outlived their time and compel us to this day to read this work straight through, not just out of respect for the author's reputation. One of them is linked to the strange "laboratory creature" that you simply cannot bring yourself to call a human being--Poligraf Poligrafovich Sharikov. The other is linked to the professor himself, the "priest," as Bulgakov calls him several times.

In a time of revolutionary breakdown the most varied forces, in terms of tendency and coloring, are inevitably drawn into historical action. Sharikov embodies the plebian, lower elements, not the conscious, democratic element, of the people's life. Poligraf Poligrafovich essentially has nothing "proletarian" about him except his origin, which he likes to bring out with pride. Klim Chugunkin, drunk and loafer with a criminal record, whose consciousness was inherited by the stray dog, is a "lumpen proletarian" in the exact meaning of the word. Crudeness and impudence, drunkenness, thievery, lying, and snitching--everything ugly seems to be concentrated in the fantastic two-legged being born of the professor's genius. His chief interest is not to produce, but to "divide up," to insist on his "rights" and avoid his obligations. And what a stunning trait--Sharikov's demand for a white ticket! "I will get enrolled, but as for fighting--screw that!" But on the other hand he was fully ready to take the position of catching cats. The majestic opportunity of pronouncing articulated sounds inspires Sharikov only to attend meetings and engage in loutish demagoguery--so then, is this ability of ours to shout political slogans worth so much?

Spiritual crudeness and just plain crudeness, lack of upbringing and education--this is what Bulgakov sees as the real threat to building a new life and he lashes out at it with his elegant, poisonous satire. This semi-human with the sloping forehead, but wearing a colored tie and polished shoes, always ready to "blast" someone, is terrifying. Sharikov in his "position," having donned a leather jacket and delivered home in a truck (what a marvelous detail!), is a menacing vision of plebeian insolence, impudent permissiveness, ready to bury all human moral values together with the ideals of the revolution. And therefore the professor is right when, although in a naive and starry-eyed way, he appeals to Sharikov: "Study and try to become at least a somewhat acceptable member of the social community."

Another, equally important facet of Bulgakov's fantastic satire is linked to the character Professor Preobrazhenskiy. A conscientious conservative, and if not a monarchist at least a respectable subject of the old regime, Preobrazhenskiy fights vainly to preserve his customary way of life in the large Prechistenka apartment. He would like to wall himself off from the "street" and keep untouched his "pure" science and his independence of a specialist who is hostile to the new authorities but cooperates with them; at the same time he wants to keep his ideas of morality and even of everyday comforts. But to his own doom he creates a monster, a kind of "proletarian golem" who is capable of degrading and destroying everything around him. The near-sightedness of the academy scientist's contribution and the unpredictability of the results of experiment and theory when it is a matter of the human psyche--this is probably as pressing a subject today as it was 60 years ago when the novella was written.

The second half of the 20th Century revealed the possibilities of genetic engineering and raised the disturbing question of the reality of abuse when intervening in the mechanisms of human consciousness. I am not even speaking of the sophisticated robots coming from applied cybernetics. If these dangerous experiments are not surrounded with the highest moral consciousness, the result may go out of the scientist's control and he will very likely look at his creation with the same disgusted amazement that Preobrazhenskiy feels

when he looks at the two-legged monster he has created. That is another reason there is no doubt that Bulgakov's novella will be read with interest by the current generation of readers.

It is easy to allow that the author's position can arouse various attitudes and arguments. But it is perfectly obvious that while there is a certain sympathy for the "priest" of pure science, Bulgakov's view differs in many respects from that of his hero, the Prechistenka professor.

In his well-known letter to the Government on 28 March 1930 Bulgakov spoke with rare frankness about his views: that he was an unconditional advocate of freedom of creativity and the "Great Evolution," that he considered the intelligentsia to be the best social stratum in the country and that he despaired about those features of "my people" which, "long before the revolution, caused profound suffering for my teacher Saltykov-Shchedrin." But he sincerely tried to help the new society rid itself of those of its ulcers that he with his sharp vision sees.

It is relevant here to recall A. A. Fadeyev's words about Bulgakov: "People of literature and people of politics know that he is a man who did not burden himself with political lies either in his creative work or in life. They know that his path was sincere, limited, and if at the start of his path (and sometimes also later) he did not see everything as it actually was, that is not surprising; it would have been worse if he had lied about it."

It is artistic honesty that makes Bulgakov's novella a significant source of realistic knowledge. But while knowledge is fine and good, there is also the simple pleasure of the reader who values intelligence, humor, and the vital beauty of the Russian literary language. Bulgakov's style is simple and free, and this is a trait not just of style but in a way also of artistic thinking itself. Here is prose writing that can be called, without a trace of exaggeration, "transparent"; the people, their faces, movements, and actions can be seen through the words as if through an imperceptible crystal of the purest water. Bulgakov's marvelous humor plus his biting but not malicious irony add charm and strength to the life of this unconstrained story.

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FILM INDUSTRY IN CRISIS: LACKS FILM TO SHOOT MOVIES

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 May 87 p 3

[Article by A. Lebedev under rubric "Going Back to an Earlier Report": "Filming Had to be Halted"]

[Text] The item, "And What Will We See on the Screens?" (No 96) dealt, in particular, with film shortages experienced by the country's film studios. The Editors received a letter from the Ministry of the Chemical Industry.

In it deputy minister S. Golubkov states that the ministry has been assigned the task of reaching the goal of supplying 950 million meters of film to the State Committee for Cinematography [Goskino] by 1990. This year's plan provides for supplying 787 million meters, including 582 million meters of color film, of which 118 million meters is to come from the GDR. However, in the first quarter of the year supplies have already fallen short by 10.4 million meters, including 7.5 million meters of color film.

Plans have been drawn up for the development of the material and technical base of the photographic chemicals industry. Funding has been allocated for investment in the retooling, reconstruction and expansion of plants of the industry. The construction ministries and Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building have received appropriate assignments for the aforementioned work.

The deputy minister further writes: "A. A. Nilov, chief engineer of Soyuzkhimfoto [All-Union Association for the Manufacture and Marketing of Photographic Chemicals of the Ministry of the Chemical Industry], took part in the deliberations of the USSR Cinematographers Union's all-Union conference 'On the State and Prospects of Development of the Film Industry's Material and Technical Base,' and in his presentation he gave detailed information about film supplies for the film industry in the 12th 5-Year Plan period... The establishment of state acceptance services at the Shostka Production Association Svema and the Kazan Association Tasma is one such effective measure. In addition, stricter technological regulations are being enforced in the industry and interim scientific-production groups of institute and association specialists have been organized."

So does that mean there is no cause for concern? That everything is in order? Our correspondent asked Goskino deputy chairman S. Solomatin to comment on S. Golubkov's response.

"The situation with film has never been so bad. Printing of several films has been halted. We lack a normal reserve of film for our work. Because of this, last year and this year the Novosibirsk and Ryazan film printing plants were idle for several days each. Currently, as a result of failure to meet contractual commitments, several filming groups are idle at the Central Documentary Film Studio. Several films at the Gorkiy Film Studio are also in jeopardy. At the Mosfilm Studio, for example, filming has been halted of the films "The Friend" (director L. Kvinikhidze), "Marine Guards, Forward!" (director S. Druzhinina), "Time to Fly" (director A. Sakharov), "Where is Nofelet?" (director G. Bezhanov), "Free Fall" (director M. Tumanishvili)... In the first quarter the Central Science Film Studio received less than 60 percent of the required amount of film.

"This is the state of affairs with regard to quantity. Take, for example, TsP-II film. GKNT [State Committee for Science and Technology] set the task of developing a new range of color films back in 1975. But the problem wasn't solved in either the 10th or 11th 5-Year Plans. Even improved quality films developed in preceding years are being introduced into mass production extremely slowly, as, for example, TsP-11 film, which was recommended for mass production eight years ago... It surpasses the currently manufactured TsP-8R film several times over and could contribute to a considerable improvement in the technical standards of movies. Unfortunately, even it does not fully meet world standards. Was it so hard to advance in 12 years? The quality of mass-produced Soviet film continues to lag at least 25 years behind the standards of similar films manufactured by foreign companies. We could add that steady deliveries of even such low-quality film are constantly disrupted.

"Last year the average percentage of spoilage in mass-produced color films ranged from 6 to 14 percent! For comparison, the proportion of spoilage in ORWO films manufactured in the GDR does not exceed 0.17 percent."

The reply of deputy minister of the Chemical Industry S. Golubkov states: "State acceptance is an effective measure" for improving film quality...

"Nevertheless we continue to receive defective film, perhaps due to obsolete production technologies and overworked machinery. Presumably these problems also worry the chemists, they have many difficulties, but repeating these words cannot set things right...

"An important problem is to start manufacturing color positive film in larger reels. Leading foreign companies manufacture these films in 600-, 900-, and 1,200-meter reels, while we produce 300-meter reels, although it is common knowledge that using larger reels makes it possible to increase the productivity of film printing plants 10 to 15 percent without any investment of capital and to considerably improve show conditions."

When this issue was going to print we received a phone call from Goskino. They read a telegram received from the Lenfilm Studio: "Absence of color

negative film is disrupting studio plans and dispatch of on-location groups. Second quarter funds provide for 100,000 meters; received: 15,000. Request urgent measures." Goskino receives such telegrams daily from virtually all 39 film studios of the country. What does the Ministry of the Chemical Industry think of them?

9681

CSO: 1800/610

MOVIES FOR TEENS--THE MOST FREQUENT VIEWERS--LACKING

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 12 May 87 p 2

[Article by S. Aleksandrov: "Under Sixteen..."; "Notes from Joint Session of USSR Supreme Soviet Standing Commissions"]

[Text] There is probably no more grateful audience than children, adolescents, young people. Because for them movies are not just a show and entertainment but also a wise teacher and welcome interlocutor. Sociologists carried out a study of the demands of children and adolescent movie audiences. Its geography was quite extensive: Moscow, Vladivostok, Kostroma, Ryazan, Sterlitamak, Tyumen... Besides Russia, also cities in Azerbaidzhan and Latvia. Polls were also conducted in villages of Vologda, Kalinin, and Poltava oblasts.

Well, it was definitively found that movie attendance by schoolchildren of all age groups is almost one hundred percent. At least 60 films a year for each! For comparison: The average national attendance is only 15 per person. The most frequent movie-goers are 13- to 15-year-olds. That is the age during which the personality develops and moral qualities are instilled most actively.

Our children's and youth cinematography has a rich history and good traditions. It helps get to know the surrounding world, prepares for entering the greater world, and has a profound impact on character formation.

All this was the subject of a businesslike and frank discussion at the 5th congress of the USSR Cinematographers Union one year ago. Currently, the film industry, like the country as a whole, is going through a difficult process of restructuring [perestroyka]. But strangely enough, it has virtually not involved movies for young people. Although at the congress voices were raised concerning the troubled state of this form of movie art, measures for improving it were not duly reflected in the congress resolutions.

Lately more and more appeals have been addressed to deputies of Soviets requesting help in improving the state of affairs in the film industry. Such appeals have also been made to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. In particular, well-known actor and film director Rolan Bykov has come out with specific proposals. They were studied in detail by a special commission of

deputies and then discussed at a joint session of the standing commissions for public education and culture of the USSR Supreme Soviet's Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities.

"It's hard to blame anyone personally," Bykov said, "but circumstances evolved in such a way that children's cinematography came to be looked down upon as lacking in prestige: First at the Gorkiy Studio and later by the film distribution service. As I see it, the thing is that from the economic point of view making children's films is less profitable than others, with higher costs. Nor did these films get any fiscal hay in the movie theaters. As a consequence a squeeze was gradually put on the people working in children's movies. And when the commercial approach prevailed this also resulted in a sharp deterioration of the artistic standards of films. Naturally, in such circumstances the material and technical basis deteriorated and it became more difficult to produce children's films..."

Goskino chairman A. Kamshalov has self-critically conceded that the committee bears a large part of the blame, because in fact, the alarm wasn't sounded just today. Back in 1981, the CPSU Central Committee passed a resolution on improving the production and demonstration of films for children and adolescents, drawing attention to negative trends and the need to improve the quality of movies. It was proposed to involve the best creative forces in making them. It was pointed out that the Gorkiy Studio was not fully providing for the performance of its basic task. And specific measures for radically changing the situation were defined. However, most of the planned measures were never put into effect.

"It is necessary to immediately start rectifying things and creating the most favorable conditions for the production of children's movies," said People's Artist of the USSR K. Lavrov. "Formerly children's films were profitable because attendance was high, by both children and adults. But nowadays even assignments to schools are of no avail. You can't hope for success if the screen presents only blatant didactics with no excitement or entertainment. Goskino followed the balance [ostatochnyy] principle in funding children's cinematography, which undermined its development. This resulted not only in fiscal losses but also in artistic and moral mistakes."

Let us take some facts. Between 1981 and 1986, more than 70 films were produced under state contracts. But there was not a single children's movie among them. In the last two years there have been no provisions for a single full-length feature film. So it's hardly surprising that out of 22 children's film directors trained during the 1970s only four are working in that field.

Of course, providing movies for young audiences is not only the concern of film makers. Things can't be set right without the concerned involvement of the Komsomol, cultural, public education and vocational training agencies. So this is a common, integrated task each element of which is important in its way. Unfortunately, resolution of the problems of children's films is scattered among numerous elements of Goskino. Who but the Ministry of Education and the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences should develop scientifically substantiated recommendations on using films in the educational process and enhancing its role in upbringing? True, decisions have been

passed on expanding the system of specialized children's movie theaters and increasing the amount of showtime for children in all theaters, houses of culture and clubs...

"...But many of these decisions remained on paper," noted Deputy T. Bokareva, a teacher at Moscow Secondary School #431. "At present there are just over 400 children's movie theaters nationwide. Matters are especially bad in cities in Siberia, the Volga country, Armenia, and Kazakhstan. In fact, one needn't go very far for examples: even in Moscow getting into a children's movie theater presents a problem. This cannot be tolerated..."

It is also necessary to reckon with the opportunities provided by television in providing more movies. Video recorders and cassette television are being used on an ever expanding scale. That is precisely why it is urgently necessary to start making video movies for child and adolescent audiences.

"In the new conditions," Bykov pointed out, "when the Soviet film industry is going over to cost accounting, children's cinematography can also achieve high economic effectiveness. But only truly artistic films can yield a profit. Life demands the establishment of an all-Union children's film production association, Soyuzdetfilm, under Goskino. Then a real opportunity will appear for pooling and most effectively using creative forces, material and technical resources, and for coordinating the production and distribution of films for children and adolescents..."

Participants in the discussion also suggested other measures which could help assure the reliable development of children's cinematography. Appropriate resolutions on the discussed issues were passed.

9681

CSO: 1800/610

IZVESTIYA DISCUSSES NEW LAW ON PROSECUTION FOR CRITICISM

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 May 87 p 3

[Article by Anatoliy Druzenko and Aleksandr Pashkov, Sverdlovsk Oblast: "Under Article 139¹"]

[Text] The article is comparatively new: it was added to the RSFSR Criminal Code on 30 October 1985.

It is very important: it protects the right to criticism.

And timely: criticism is becoming an everyday thing, but this has not made pressure against criticism a rarity.

It touches everyone: so it is worth reading it once again and memorizing it.

It reads: "Article 139¹. Persecution of Citizens for Criticism

Deliberate infringement by an official of the rights and legally protected interests of a citizen involving persecution for submitting, by established procedures, suggestions, statements, and petitions, or for the criticism contained in them, and equally for presenting criticism in another form--

--is punishable by a fine of up to 300 rubles or dismissal from the position held.

The same actions, which have caused significant harm to the rights and legally protected interests of a citizen--

--are punishable by loss of freedom for a period of up to 2 years, or corrective labor for a period of from 1 to 2 years, or by dismissal from the position held."

It is a serious article...

But to pass a law is one thing; as we know, however, to apply it is something else. Time passed, and the very fact that a new article had appeared in the criminal law aroused natural interest: lawyers conducted debates about it, the fact of its passage, that is, and journalists wrote about it. But for some

reason nothing was heard about practical application of the new legal norm. Not that long ago LITERATURNAYA GAZETA bluntly observed: "The article on 'Persecution for criticism,' which went into force more than a year ago, is inoperative (at least we have not heard of a single trial of a 'suppressor' ["zazhimshchik"] yet."

There was a precedent. A trial was held. It was in the rayon center of Nizhniye Sergi, in Sverdlovsk Oblast.

Local wits called it the "trial of the century," referring to the publicity that it received in the district. In our opinion this is no exaggeration. Rather it is an understatement, because the trial in Nizhniye Sergi was not of just rayon interest. We all have an interest in it, precisely as an attempt at practical application of the article on persecution for criticism.

We will tell how it ended a little later. But now let us present the two main characters in our story.

The defendant was Aleksandr Stepanovich Blinovskikh, born in 1931, Russian, married, higher education, a CPSU member, recipient of state awards, and since 1967 chief of Shop No 3 at the Mikhaylovsk Nonferrous Metals Processing Plant.

The victim was Tamara Yelizarovna Pevtsova, Russian, married, secondary education, not a party member, elected deputy to the rayon and city soviets, a warehouse employee of the same shop at the Mikhaylovsk plant.

You must agree that common phrase "a good record" (which, incidentally, was heard during the trial) fits each of them very well. Ordinary people, but in conflict, and for a long time.

Their "production relations" began to crack for domestic reasons. The fact is that Blinovskikh and Pevtsova are not just co-workers, but also neighbors at home. In a cooperative building. Tamara Yelizarovna was chairwoman of the cooperative board and, she says, her relations with Aleksandr Stepanovich were normal until 1979, when she objected to Blinovskikh receiving the apartment of his choice in the cooperative. Later she made some unpleasant remarks about her co-worker and neighbor's parties being too noisy. Finally, in 1983--again as chairwoman of the cooperative board--she did not permit Aleksandr Stepanovich to put a garage up next to the building, in the children's area.

As often happens, things started at home, but came out at work.

On top of the conflict at home there was...alcohol. The thing was that in her job at the warehouse Tamara Yelizarovna was in charge of this asset. And this is where the trouble began, in the sense that warehouse worker Pevtsova objected to wasting this valuable, in all respects, product; she would point out, in particular, that the norms of alcohol consumption, which had been justified at the time when the technology was being worked out, had not changed much recently, when the production process was running smoothly. In the case of solid products there is weight loss by drying, but what was this with alcohol--leakage? The norms had not changed, but the nature of the "consumption" had.

Judging by everything, this situation suited the shop chief, while Pevtsova took the opposite position. Aleksandr Stepanovich was probably spurred on by the insults at home too. In short, he decided that some pressure had to be put on Tamara Yelizarovna somehow. An incident turned up and it came out that Pevtsova, the one who opposed liberal handling of the powerful raw material, was accused of theft. Criminal charges were brought, and the investigation began. But after looking into it, the case was dropped for lack of the elements [evidence] of a crime.

This was in October 1984...

The case was dropped, but the fact that it had been begun was enough for the shop chief to express distrust in the warehouse worker and transfer her to production work as a slurry-dye worker.

So the epic began, and incidentally, with a common plot line.

Considering Blinovskikh's decision unlawful, Pevtsova appealed to the plant party and trade union committees, requesting a review. In response she received either silence or unintelligible reasons. So she wrote to Moscow, and then traveled to the capital in search of truth, but without result. Finally, she turned to the Nizhniye Sergi Peoples Court.

And on 23 January 1985 that court delivered its verdict restoring her to her former job.

The next part of the epic is how Blinovskikh carried out the court's verdict. Or more accurately, how he did not carry it out. It was very simple: he did not let her in the warehouse, period. It is true that after the oblast procurators office intervened he did permit it at last. But to hurt her again he would not conclude an agreement on material accountability, so she was not a full-fledged worker. And it was only on 25 July 1986, in other words 18 months (!) after the court's verdict, that Pevtsova was fully restored to her former job.

It was deliberate that we emphasized that this is a common, even, if you like, very ordinary "plot." It has been around for a long time, both in life and in judicial practice. In legal language it is named clearly and succinctly: "Failure to carry out a court verdict." And this is the legal offense by A. Blinovskikh that was established in the trial held in Nizhniye Sergi in January of this year. Aleksandr Stepanovich was found guilty and sentenced to 10 months of corrective labor at his place of employment with 20 percent of his wages each month withheld. In addition, he was deprived of the right to hold any position involving organizational and management duties for 1 year.

All right, the reader will say, but what does this have to do with Article 139¹ and persecution for criticism?

The fact is that the chief of Shop No 3 at the Mikhaylovsk Nonferrous Metals Processing Plant was also tried under this article. And this was the part of the Nizhniye Sergi trial that is noteworthy...

...Oh, these crooked little buildings, maybe one and a half stories, maybe two, forsaken by God and the local authorities, that house the peoples courts of our small cities! Nizhniye Sergi, of course, is no exception. It has a sign with peeling paint and letters that are hard to make out--but they should sparkle. A creaky stairway to the second floor. Offices, a receiving room, and a little water tank. Ancient--discarded somewhere else, but suitable here--cabinets and tables. And on one of them--why is it here?--is an ordinary, heavy, store-bought scale with a pear-shaped apparatus and an arrow in the middle. So big that Themis could not even hold it up with two hands.

And, needless to say, the courtroom. On the first floor. The door opens directly into the street. Just open it and walk right in. But try to walk in when it is minus 30 out. These doors are a terror. Overnight they become stuck, and in the morning you pull and pull; the door creaks and holds, as if objecting. You get it slightly open and push through sideways, afraid you will lose your buttons.

...After us a young girl squeezed through, the secretary. Wearing a light coat, but what can you do--it is cold in the courtroom. She stepped to the middle of the room, gave us a sullen look, and announced: "All rise, court is in session!" But the cursed door would not obey the court either. It too, the lofty Court, must slip through a cracked-open, noisy door--the judge and the peoples assessors as well.

Imagine the "trial of the century" in such a setting!

We take note of the "outward appearance" of Nizhniye Sergi (there are too many such places to count) justice in passing. This is not the subject of our discussion. But to be frank, the time has long since arrived for a serious and unpleasant discussion not only about improving our judicial practices but also about establishing--everywhere, but especially at the "rayon level"--material conditions appropriate to the lofty purpose of the Court. This is shameful...

But the remark about the setting is on the subject. Let us pose a question: is it an everyday episode in the life of the rayon center Nizhniye Sergi, the city of Mikhaylovsk, the collective of the nonferrous metals processing plant there, and for all Nizhneserginskiy Rayon, this case where one of the managers is charged with persecution for criticism? And let us stipulate immediately that what verdict the court reaches--guilty or not guilty--is not so important. What is important, we will repeat, is the very fact of a court hearing for such a matter--certainly it could and should have been an event, evidence of real restructuring of life and the maturing of democracy (after all, 2 years ago such a thing would have been completely inconceivable), and an occasion for reflection on criticism, the attitude toward it, and the measure of responsibility, of both the one who criticizes and the one who tries to suppress the critic.

But what kind of event is it, what kind of reflection will there be, if, other than the presiding judge, two peoples assessors, the procurator, two attorneys, and the secretary, there were just six others: the defendant and his wife, the victim and her husband, and two special correspondents from IZVESTIYA?

(Incidentally, the sentence was delivered in this same "narrow circle," and in the judge's chamber, not even in the courtroom).

But let us direct attention to a significant moment in the trial. At the very start Judge F. Fayzrakhmanov asked the victim if she had any motions for the court.

"I do," Pevtsova answered. "I request that the court hearing be conducted at the place of work, that is, at the plant."

After consulting, the court denied the motion. The reason? It turned out that during a session the court may need all kinds of legal literature and so, they said, it would be more convenient to hear the case there, in the rayon court room, than to travel to Mikhaylovsk, several dozen kilometers away, and meet at the plant, possibly right in the shop.

It was as if they were talking about a squabble in the kitchen, not about a socially significant phenomenon. Moreover, a complex, contradictory phenomenon that excites and upsets the society. A phenomenon which judicial practice is just now approaching.

Everything is new for the court here. Criticism and persecution for it. The mutual relations of the criticizer and the one criticized. There are so many psychological nuances, subtleties, shades, so much that is transitory, superficial, and subjective! And all this has to be figured out objectively, the truth identified, and a verdict delivered whose fairness should be recognized and accepted not only by the direct participants in the "case," but also by society. And if the conflict (and persecution for criticism is always a conflict) occurs in the superior-subordinate relationship (and it usually does) and if it lasts for years in front of the collective (in this case it reached the point where the same local wits at the plant called Blinovskikh's relations with Pevtsova "our Iran-Iraq war"), then it certainly is more logical to deliver--and carefully nurture--a verdict about this in the presence of the collective and, most importantly, for the benefit of the collective.

And this is exactly where it is not important how comfortable or uncomfortable the conditions of the room where the court meets are. If it needs to be at the shop, the court can meet among the machines; if a "war" occurs at the logging enterprise, it is possible to go out in the woods, and we do not have to talk about well-fixed institutions and organizations with spacious red corners.

For all its "secrets," persecution for criticism most often happens in front of people, introducing discord into the life of the collective and tension in labor relations. Therefore, it seems to us, such cases definitely should be heard in front of people, in the collective, in the milieu where the critical situation arose.

They did not want to do that in Nizhniye Sergi...

From the start the court hearing rolled along the usual track, bringing out that which was simplest to bring out--that the shop chief has not complied with the decision to restore the woman to her former job. The few witnesses who traveled to the rayon center from Mikhaylovsk were asked about this in enormous detail, but yet the words "criticism" and "persecution for criticism" were not heard in the courtroom at all.

However, in our view the court could not have reviewed this aspect of the conflict in detail. Why? Because the indictment did not provide grounds for such an analysis. You read this part of it, where Blinovskikh is accused of committing the crime envisioned by Article 139¹, and you see what an enormous volume of difficult work this new legal norm requires of the investigation.

You see "in reverse": it is easy to observe how superficially the indictment treats the relationship between criticism and persecution. On the one hand it lists the facts that can be interpreted as criticism of Blinovskikh by Pevtsova: she spoke to the cooperative board and condemned her neighbor's parties; she spoke at a meeting with a candidate for deputy and stated that the shop chief abused alcoholic beverages at home and during working hours; she said the same thing at the House of Culture--that Aleksandr Stepanovich not only was not fighting against drunks in his shop, but himself was an "abuser." On the other hand, the facts are noted which, in the opinion of the investigation, could be evaluated as persecution for criticism: Blinovskikh did not grant Pevtsova a vacation and he put a rerport on the notice board that discredited Tamara Yelizarovna. Let us repeat that the main thing, evidence that the two lines touched, that the one (the shop chief's actions toward the worker) arose out of the other (the worker's critical remarks about the shop chief), was lacking.

Therefore, it was easy for the court to dismiss this part of the indictment. It came out that the refusal to grant vacation was justified, and moreover these matters are within the jurisdiction of the plant director and trade union committee. As for the episode where he put up the notice, it was the procurator, not the defendant, who demanded that the results of the investigation in the "Pevtsova case" be announced in the collective.

As a result, as the reader probably already guesses, defendant A. Blinovskikh was acquitted under Article 139¹ for lack of the elements of the crime.

Again the point is not what verdict was delivered--guilty or not guilty. The point is the indoctrinational impact of the trial, the depth of investigation of the conflict, and finally, how soundly the legal norm that protects the right to criticism was applied in practice.

Unfortunately, the trial in Nizhniye Sergi did not rise to this level.

Nonetheless it was useful for the lessons it gave. Here is one of them. The court's verdicts contains these words, which are crucially important for investigating the essential features of such cases (although we will observe, following LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, that we do not know of another case where a person who used pressure against criticism has been tried). Here are the words: "A causal connection is lacking." This is the root of the problem.

And it is a possible answer to the question: why is the article "Persecution for Criticism" having such difficulty becoming part of judicial practice. It is because "it"--persecution--must be proved! And the weakness of the charge under Article 139¹, which was identified in the trial in Nizhniye Sergi, carries a warning. The article is indeed a serious one; it demands serious work and a serious attitude. Because the causal connection cannot be cast aside--it is one of the cornerstones of the legal system.

Initiative just to get credit or to be in style will not work in this instance.

The question of questions is how to prove the causal connection. Of course, this applies to any article of the Criminal Code. But in this particular case both the investigation and the court face special difficulties.

Let us imagine a fantasy situation. A shop chief has the habit of making notes in the evening about how the day went. At a certain meeting he is criticized by a woman worker. The chief returns home, sits down at his desk, and makes an entry in his diary. And then this entry (and we do not know how) reaches the investigator. And there, written in the chief's own hand, is written: "X. criticized me today. I will have to persecute her. I will give her three reprimands in a row and then dismiss her." You have to admit that it is ideal evidence, but unrealistic. No one writes such things, no one announces such things, and no one ever admits to such things.

That is why it is so hard to prove the causal connection. And it is why the article "Persecution for Criticism" is not simply new for the employees of court agencies--it also gives them new tasks.

...And still, after the Nizhniye Sergi trial, we could not get over the feeling that the first (at least to the authors' knowledge) attempt to apply this article involved just such a conflict (possibly some will also consider it petty), where everything came to a head: home life, alcohol, work, and personal relations. At the same time life is serving up plots that are much bigger and more dramatic. Now and again the newspapers write articles that literally cry out about persecution for criticism, where people who have presented socially significant criticism are suffering, subjected to harassment, lose their jobs, go through the thickets of trials and psychological examinations, break out of the local "grips," travel to the capital, live on the doorsteps of court agencies, and spend nights at train stations. These actions disturb the society, and often steps are taken with them--someone is restored to their job, someone is reprimanded. Yet for some reason no response is made from one standpoint, the standpoint of Article 139¹.

But the time for that has come...

P.S. The trial was in January, and we are writing about it in May. Why? The rayon procurator protested the court's verdict, specifically with regard to the charge that Blinovskikh violated the article on persecution for criticism. We were waiting for the result. The Sverdlovsk Oblast Court upheld the rayon court's verdict.

And what about the heroes of our story? Pevtsova is working at her old job, as a "full-fledged" worker. She is working, she says, normally. Immediately after the trial Blinovskikh applied to be transferred to another shop as a foreman. He is now on leave, after which he intends to go on pension.

With that we can perhaps conclude the article about the Article.

11176

CSO: 1800/633

NEW BOOK SURVEYS COMPULSORY MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR ADDICTION

Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNYE NAUKI V SSSR: SERIYA 4--GOSUDARSTVO I PRAVO in Russian No 2, 1986 (signed to press 21 Jan 87) pp 174-180

[Review by L. L. Alanian of book "Primeneniye Mer Lechebno-Trudovogo Vozdeystviya" [Application of Work-Treatment Measures] by A. R. Kunitsyn and M. Ya. Maslenikov, Chief Editor M. A. Shapkin, Yurid. Lit., Moscow, 1986, 95 pages]

[Text] The book examines the principles, essence, and purposes of compulsory treatment for alcoholics and drug addicts and describes the operations of internal affairs organs with respect to the preparation of materials dealing with trends in work-treatment centers and court reviews of these materials.

The authors write that the principles underlying the application of compulsory treatment and work retraining for chronic alcoholics and drug addicts were established by the ukase of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium of March 1, 1974 (with the revisions and amendments of October 11, 1982 and October 1, 1985) "On the Compulsory Treatment and Work Retraining of Chronic Alcoholics" (1) and the ukase of August 25, 1972 (with revisions and amendments of July 15, 1974) "On the Compulsory Treatment and Work Retraining of Drug Addicts" (2). Chronic alcoholics who have refused voluntary treatment or persons who continue to drink following treatment may be sent to LTP (Lechebno-trudovyye profilaktorii) [Work Treatment Centers]. Drug addicts who refuse treatment at public health drug treatment centers are subject to being sent to LTP's. The following two important criteria are used to determine whether a chronic alcoholic or drug addict is sent to a LTP: The medical criterion, i.e., the state of the person's health, and the social-legal criterion, i.e., data on the person's refusal of treatment or drunkenness following treatment. Also required for the commitment of such persons to LTP's are petitions filed by public organizations, labor collectives, state organs, family members or close relatives.

The preparation of materials for judicial review is undertaken by rayon (city) internal affairs departments in the locality in which cause is given for the commitment of a chronic alcoholic or drug addict to a LTP. The standard procedures do not establish which public organizations and state organs are to initiate a petition to have a person sent to a LTP. The authors indicate the advisability of defining such organizations and organs. The authors believe

that the following should have the right to initiate a petition to have persons sent to LTP's: 1) Medical institutions which identify cases of alcoholism and drug addiction, 2) executive committees of settlement, rayon, and city Soviets of People's Deputies in the residential locality of the concerned persons, 3) administrative enterprises, institutions, and organizations at the work places of persons requiring compulsory treatment for alcoholism and drug addiction, 4) labor collectives of enterprises, institutions, and organizations or their structural subdivisions in regard to members of such collectives, 5) trade union and other public organizations and elective organs, 6) comrade courts, 7) commissions for combating drunkenness, 8) commissions for juvenile affairs, 9) house, apartment, and sidewalk committees, school parent committees, and soviets for crime prevention (pp 24-25).

When the materials have been completed the internal affairs organs must compile a list of persons to be summoned to a court session, and they must explain the legal consequences of refusing to appear in court to persons who are subject to being committed to a LTP. The preliminary preparation of the materials and final judgment on the necessity of sending a chronic alcoholic or drug addict to a LTP must be completed within a ten-day period. The judgment is confirmed by the chief of the rayon (city) department of internal affairs. The decision to send a person to a LTP is made by the court within a ten-day period in an open court session at the permanent residence site of persons for whom the petitions were initiated, and at the locality in which the petition was initiated in the case of persons who do not have a specific place of residence. The authors identify the following three stages in the court procedure for these types of cases: 1) the pre-court preparation of materials for review, 2) review of the materials at a court session, and 3) execution of the decrees (p. 28).

The authors point out that when the case materials must be returned to the internal affairs department for further verification, a joint session of the court must issue a decree that indicates the specific shortcomings and possible means of their elimination. The justification for this kind of decree can be verified by an inspection procedure. When the case materials are being prepared for court review the people's judge individually decides on the time and place of the court's examination, the summoning of the person about whom a petition has been submitted by members of his family, witnesses, representatives of his labor collective, a public organization or other organ which submitted the petition or representatives from the community in which the alcoholic or drug addict resides. When necessary, the people's court has the right to summon a representative or member of the medical commission which recommended compulsory treatment at a LTP.

The authors write that current legislation does not regulate the procedures and forms whereby court summons are issued to persons about whom materials have been submitted. The guideline directives of the USSR Supreme Court and the RSFSR Supreme Court likewise contain no directions on this point. The authors point out that appropriate recommendations would be useful not only for the courts, but also for the internal affairs organs. The law does not stipulate that the people's court is obliged to issue a decree to have case materials reviewed. In practice, this question is resolved by an appropriate

resolution in a cover letter. The authors believe this is inadvisable. They point out that in accordance with procedural law any action by a people's judge or people's court that is related to the movement of case materials must be processed by an appropriate document. This procedure should also apply to the review of case materials pertaining to the commitment of a person to a LTP. The authors believe that a people's judge is obligated to issue a decree when the case materials are designated for review. The absence of any detailed instructions in the law regarding procedures for the court examination of these kinds of cases sometimes leads to the infringement of citizen rights and legal interests. In particular, persons about whom materials have been submitted are not always told what their rights are. The rights of such persons should be explained to them. In the opinion of the authors, an attorney must participate in the review of cases dealing with minors who cannot assert their defense rights because of physical or mental deficiencies, or in cases concerned with persons who do not have a command of the language.

Current legislation does not contain any instructions regarding the summoning of witnesses to a court session. The authors maintain that the summoning and interrogation of witnesses in such cases are essential. They also believe that the testimony of witnesses who do not appear in court should be made public. However, such testimony should be accepted as evidence only if that information is confirmed by other objective proof. The law makes no provision for the possible participation of a procurator in court sessions dealing with the cases under review. In the opinion of the authors a procurator's participation in a court session might be required by the considerable public significance of a particular case, or by the complexity of resolving certain questions that emanate from the case materials, or by other circumstances. An attorney may participate in the procedure at the request of the person about whom case materials are being reviewed. A person should be told of his right to have an attorney not only during the preliminary preparation of the case materials but during the court session as well.

All of the court's actions undertaken during its session are recorded in the court session report which is mandatory. When a petition is recalled, the authors write, the court does not have to right to halt the proceedings because this is not a matter of a private accusation. Court practices have been presently following that procedure.

Thus far no rigid criteria have been worked out to determine how long an alcoholic or drug addict should remain at a LTP. As practice has shown, the authors write, such criteria could include the age of the person committed to a LTP, his family and material situation, information about his personality, the length of time of narcotic abuse or use without a medical prescription, the number and nature of legal violations committed as a result of alcohol or drug abuse, and the application of state-legal or public measures and the time of their application (p 38). Medical specialists recommend the following periods of compulsory treatment for chronic alcoholics: one year for everyday drunkards at the beginning stage of chronic alcoholism, and one and one-half to three years for persons in the middle or final stage (p 38). The book notes that the law contains no specific instructions regarding the content and form of court-issued decrees on the application of administrative-medical

measures against chronic alcoholics and drug addicts, and offers suggestions regarding these problems. In particular, the authors write, such a decree should consist of three sections -- an introductory section, a descriptive-justification section, and a section containing conclusions (p 40). In addition to a verification of the reasons for imposing compulsory treatment and labor retraining at a LTP on a chronic alcoholic or drug addict, the people's courts are obliged to issue a juridical judgment of persons guilty of these legal violations. If it is found that a crime has been committed, the court must decide on the institution of criminal proceedings or submit the case materials to an inquest authority or preliminary investigative office in order to resolve that question. In order to assure that inquest and preliminary investigation procedures are supervised by a procurator, the case should be submitted along departmental channels through the rayon (city) procurator.

The book offers detailed information about the process of executing people's court decrees on the commitment of chronic alcoholics and drug addicts to LTP's, grounds for extending or reducing the time spent at a labor-treatment center. It also examines the question of sending chronic alcoholics and drug addicts to labor-treatment centers after they have served their sentences for committed crimes.

The authors give special attention to the method of summing up the actual application of the law on the compulsory treatment of chronic alcoholics and drug addicts at work-treatment centers. They write that general conclusions about the application of that law can be drawn in several stages. The first stage is the organizational-preparative stage. The people's judge who is commissioned to write the overall conclusions sets forth the goals and tasks involved in a study of judicial practice. The second stage entails a direct study of the case materials and a tabulation of the information received. The third stage involves a documentary compilation of the results emanating from the study of the obtained case materials. The fourth stage entails the implementation of the resultant findings.

FOOTNOTES

1. VEDOMOSTI VERKHOV. SOVETA RSFSR, Moscow, 1974, No 10, Article 287. Ibid, 1982, No 41, Article 1513. Ibid, 1985, No 40, Art. 1398.
2. VEDOMOSTI VERKHOV. SOVETA RSFSR, Moscow 1972, No 35, Art. 870. Ibid, 1974, No 29, Art. 782.

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MAY DAY STUDENT PROTEST AGAINST ANTIALCOHOL 'HALF-MEASURES'

PM091055 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 May 87 p 12

[Valeriy Vyzhutovich article: "Rationed Passions. Postscript to a May Day Demonstration in Petrozavodsk"]

[Excerpts] Vodka coupons were abolished on 25 April by virtue of a Petrozavodsk Gorispolkom decision. The old rule was two bottles a month for everyone (except chronic alcoholics and minors). The new rule turned out to be: to each according to his needs. The university organization of the All-Union Voluntary Society for Struggle for Sobriety assessed this step as a retreat.

On May Day, university students entered Kirov Square and, marching past the stand in ceremonial ranks, raised banners which had been prepared on the previous evening. The wind caught the broad cloth.... "We Will Not Allow the Alcoholization of Youth!" "Vodka or Socialism--There Is no Third Way." "Measures, Not Half-Measures!"

Party committee secretary V.V. Shilnikov was the first to notice that something was not right in the ranks. His face dropped, he rushed past, then came back, and read again the lines on the banners waving in the wind--lines which had been approved by no one. The rector hurriedly arrived, followed by some lecturers and trade union committee aktiv members.... The general confusion was resolved by an order: "Take them away, take them away at once! Who gave permission?!" Without going into explanations, the six recalcitrants marked time, keeping their banners up in the wind. "You'll be called to account!" A marching song roared out of the loudspeakers, the ranks swayed and moved on, and the column with the waving banners made its way down the Prospekt Lenina. At the approaches to Kirov Square, Prorector V.I. Shuvalov--tall, strong, and broad-shouldered--spread out his arms in front of Ivan Aleshin and Aleksandr Tarasov, as if wanting to embrace some good old friends, and started pushing the boys aside. I.O. Osipov, dean of one of the faculties, reached for the cloth.... These desperate maneuvers failed.

An urgent session of the party committee was scheduled for 4 May. Not a single one of the participants in the "provocative action," as the occurrence was described was invited. The deans of the Physics and Mathematic Faculties were summoned, as were the parents of the culprit students. There were echoes of other times, times of unpleasant memory: "Provocative action," "deliberate

wrecking...." Ivan [chief of the Mathematical Analysis Department and leader of the movement against drunkenness] was told by Shilnikov: "You will be called to account for the provocation. But bear in mind that if even one single student speaks out in your defense...."

But the May Day event was assessed calmly at the Karelian party obkom. "I saw those slogans from the stand," I was told by Obkom Secretary Oyva Andreyevich Lensu. "After all, all they said was right, no one can object to the content. Of course, the form was somewhat crude, but I understand the boys. When there is a shortage of information, when public opinion is not taken into account.... In other words, a lesson. A lesson to us all..."

So much for that.

The two main conclusions to be drawn from the occurrence in Petrozavodsh are clearer than daylight. First, the greater the power of public opinion, the greater--not lesser--is the need for accurate calculations and comprehensive and intelligent analysis of all socioeconomic decisions, including decisions like the imposition of restriction on sales of alcohol. And second, the abolition of coupons ought to have been approached in the same democratic way at their introduction. It is impossible to have openness for just one season. Consistency is the effective element of genuine democracy. People are getting used to speaking openly about everything. They want to be assured that if openness becomes part of social life today, it will not be wilfully abolished tomorrow, like vodka coupons.

/6662

CSO: 1830/604

RSFSR SUPREME COURT EXAMINES COURTS' ROLE IN FIGHTING ALCOHOLISM

Moscow SOVETSKAYA YUSTITSIYA in Russian No 22, Nov 86 pp 6-8

[Article by L. Smirnov, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Court, under the rubric "RSFSR Supreme Court Plenum": "The Role of the Law in Controlling Alcoholism and Drunkenness"]

[Text] One of the keys to implementing the CPSU program of accelerated socio-economic development is proper employment of the human factor; that is, enhancing discipline and commitment.

The 7 May 1985 CPSU Central Committee resolution "Measures for Dealing with Drunkenness and Alcoholism" noted that the creative potential of socialism and the advantages of the socialist way of life are more evident than ever before, and that therefore it is essential for us to observe the principles of communist morality closely and extirpate such harmful habits and holdovers as drunkenness and alcohol abuse.

We will be aided in accomplishing this by a wide range of organizational, economic, administrative and legal, and educational measures that will be used to step up the campaign against drunkenness and alcoholism. The courts have a particularly high degree of responsibility for ensuring that anti-alcohol legislation becomes a reality.

A study conducted by the RSFSR Supreme Court has shown that since the party and government made their decisions on controlling drunkenness and alcoholism, the courts have stepped up their efforts in this area. For example, they use legal measures more frequently against individuals who abuse alcohol, induce minors to drink, violate alcoholic beverage sale laws, or make moonshine. The preventive campaign is also being waged more effectively.

At the same time, a look at the courts shows some serious flaws. Mistakes have been made in the way anti-alcohol legislation is used, and there is insufficient effort made to utilize criminal and civil law resources in court cases involving drunkenness and alcoholism. At times, in fact, the attitude towards these cases is purely pro forma. Some courts, satisfied with their initial good results, have slackened their efforts.

In light of the party's decision that effective anti-alcohol legislation has to be enforced and a review of judicial experience in this area, the plenum of the RSFSR Supreme Court discussed issues involving the use of anti-drunkenness and anti-alcohol legislation by the courts, and made appropriate resolutions.

In the course of the discussion at the plenum, attention was focused on the unacceptability of courts' failure to observe legal requirements repeatedly enunciated by plenums of the USSR Supreme Court and the RSFSR Supreme Court. For example, crimes committed by intoxicated persons are not always given the proper legal construction, and the issue of intoxication being an aggravating circumstance is not always addressed. This situation is additionally alarming because many crimes are still committed by persons under the influence of intoxicating substances.

For example, the Rostov Oblast Court reviewed cases heard by the Oktyabrskiy Rayon Peoples Court in Rostov-Na-Don and found that in only 15 of the 29 cases, all dealing with crimes committed by persons under the influence, was alcohol considered an aggravating circumstance, although there were grounds for asserting this for all 29. In addition, the motivation behind the court's sentence was not cited.

Increasing the use of mandatory treatment when appropriate is a more and more important issue. The plenum stressed that this, along with punishment for the crime itself, represented one of the most effective ways of combatting drunkenness. However, the courts' work in this area is flawed. For example, when hearing the case of F., who was accused of violating paragraph b of article 102 of the RSFSR Penal Code, the okrug court of the Komi-Permyatsk Autonomous Okrug failed to discuss the possibility of using mandatory alcoholic treatment, despite the conclusion of experts in the case that she needed it and that it was not contraindicated.

A number of peoples' courts have heard cases in which they have established that the accused abused alcohol, yet have not required that agencies involved in the preliminary investigation and inquiry present evidence indicating whether the person was an alcoholic. Moreover, they have not pursued this on their own, despite the fact that when they encounter too little material to be able to make a decision about whether or not to stipulate mandatory treatment, they are obligated to obtain such material (including a medical examination of the accused). Additionally, if there is too little material to fill in the gaps during the hearing, the courts are supposed to set the case aside for additional study. For example, K., who had been found guilty three times in the past for the same crime, was once again found guilty of malicious mischief while intoxicated by the Moskovskiy Rayon Peoples Court in Gorky. K. was described as a person who abused alcohol and who had been given administrative punishment twice (in the form of fines) for drunken and disreputable behavior in public. However, despite all this, neither the preliminary investigative agencies nor the court addressed the issue of whether or not K. should be required to undergo mandatory alcoholism treatment.

Because of this situation, the anti-alcohol campaign is not as effective as it could be. The response of the plenum has been to issue a resolution entitled

"Issues in the Use of the Law by RSFSR Courts to Combat Drunkenness and Alcoholism," which states that the kind of attitude noted above is unacceptable.

At the same time, however, courts in the republic occasionally use mandatory alcoholism treatment when it is not indicated. If there is any material at all in an individual's criminal record indicating that he is an alcoholic, courts tend to look at it uncritically, using notes or other semi-medical documents instead of the medical certificate prescribed by law. These notes often do not contain the necessary information and are inadequate for making a decision about whether to use mandatory treatment. Additionally, the public organization and labor collective requests enumerated in article 62 of the penal code are not verified, with requests from individuals and officials accepted instead of the prescribed ones. Finally, some courts using the mandatory treatment law do not assign the length of treatment correctly.

One of the more important weapons in the battle against drunkenness and alcoholism is mandatory treatment and labor reeducation in employer-sponsored clinics. Those undergoing this regime include individuals suffering from chronic alcoholism and refusing voluntary treatment and persons who continue a pattern of drunken behavior after treatment. Statistical data show that the republic's courts are using the material available to them more extensively and correctly. Decisions are made after examination of appropriate medical conclusions and testimony of public organizations, labor collectives, governmental agencies, family members, and close relatives; the length of treatment is also indicated. However, there are even problems here, as the plenum's resolutions noted.

At times, the individuals sent to clinics have chronic psychological or other serious illnesses that interfere with anti-alcoholism treatment, even though the opinions of medical committees do not contraindicate such treatment. As a result, numerous persons must leave clinics every year because of illness. Clearly, the courts will have to demand more of the medical opinions they use, returning them for additional verification when the conclusions are in doubt.

The low success rate of mandatory treatment, which results in many repeat visits in some areas, is cause for alarm. The plenum noted that courts rarely look at the reasons for a repeat visit when they are investigating a case, and instead conduct their work pro forma. At the same time, there are cases where, contrary to indications, chronic alcoholics fail to be sent to a clinic. For example, when the Oktyabrskiy Rayon Peoples Court in Kaluga heard the case of M., it cited his two voluntary sessions of treatment, subsequent improvement in behavior, and favorable recommendations at work as justification for not requiring that he undergo treatment at a clinic. But the presidium of the oblast court overturned this decision, since the peoples court decisions were not based on the materials involved in the case. In 1985, M. had twice faced administrative action for drunk and disorderly behavior. In her statements, his wife indicated that he had been systematically drunk and that he would quarrel when drunk. Specialists decided that M. was a chronic alcoholic who needed treatment. After reviewing the material surrounding M., the court ordered him to undergo mandatory treatment at a clinic.

The basic procedure for requiring alcoholics to undergo mandatory treatment at clinics, as well as the specific individuals empowered to request that someone undergo treatment, were established by the 1 March 1974 RSFSR Presidium of the Supreme Soviet decree "Mandatory Treatment and Labor Reeducation of Chronic Alcoholics" (with subsequent amendments and additions). The investigative materials are prepared and sent to the court by law enforcement agencies. Once it has examined them, the court pronounces sentence, which must then be executed by the appropriate law enforcement agencies within ten days. There have also been instances where decisions in civil cases involving loss of parental rights, eviction, constraint of competence, and other issues related to alcohol abuse have included mandatory alcoholism treatment, despite the fact that the decision to require such treatment is a separate issue. When the Miyakinskiy Rayon Peoples Court in the Bashkir ASSR heard a case involving a suit initiated by the Commission for Minor's Affairs, it deprived S-vu of her parental rights and, as part of the same decision, required that she undergo two years of mandatory alcoholism treatment.

At the same time, as the Plenum made clear, if, in the course of the investigation, it is confirmed that a citizen is a chronic alcoholic who avoids voluntary treatment or who is continually drunk following treatment, then the court must react by carrying out a separate decision aimed at getting the proper agencies to take measures to send these individuals for compulsory treatment.

One of the most effective legal tools available for combatting drunkenness and alcoholism is the provision of Article 16 of the RSFSR Civil Code permitting the courts to constrain the competence of individuals whose abuse of alcohol jeopardizes the material welfare of their families. This standard is not, however, extensively used everywhere. Some of the courts in Kalinin Oblast, Krasnodarskiy Kray, and elsewhere heard such cases only in isolated instances in 1985, although this does not mean that there is no one in these areas whose alcohol abuse jeopardizes the material welfare of their family. For example, statistics from the Krasnodarskiy Kray Narcotics Center in Slavyansk-Na-Kuban show that there are 2,935 alcohol abusers registered there. Yet in 1985 the peoples court did not hear a single case where a request was made to constrain the competence of one of these individuals.

According to article 258 of the RSFSR Civil Trial Code, those who have the right to initiate the constraint of competence proceedings outlined in article 16 of the RSFSR Civil Code include the involved individual's family, labor union, or other public agency, as well as the prosecutor, a trustee or guardian, or a psychiatric institution. In actuality, most constraint of competence cases are initiated by prosecutors. Of 120 constraint cases heard by courts in Primorskiy Kray, only five were initiated by requests from family members of alcohol abusers. And all 190 cases involving this issue in the Chuvash ASSR were initiated by the prosecutor. This situation results from inadequate knowledge of the law.

To illustrate the situation, we can look at the Staronikolsk Rural Council's Commission Against Drunkenness. Staronikolsk is in Khokhol'skiy Rayon, Voronezh Oblast. Instead of referring requests to constrain the competence of an alcohol abusing individual directly to the courts, the council would direct

them to the prosecutor, who would redirect them to the head of the Rayon Department of Internal Affairs, whence they would find their way to the courts. The executive committees of local councils, labor unions, and various oblasts, as well as the members of alcohol abusing families, operated in the same way.

Operating in this way drags out the actual resolution of cases involving constraint of competence for no reason. The courts will have to take steps to clarify the appropriate procedures.

One factor reducing the effectiveness of the anti-alcohol campaign is the frequent failure of courts to explain to persons bringing alimony, incompatibility-related eviction, and other suits stemming from defendants' alcohol abuse that members of alcohol abusers' families have the option of requesting constraint of competence independently in accordance with article 16 of the Civil Code. In addition, the use of this request and the court's decision to constrain competence might yield positive results in many cases by preventing a conflict from arising, preserving the integrity of an individual's family, and helping him deal with his dangerous addiction to alcohol. This has not been the case with dissolving marriages, taking alimony, or evicting an alcohol abuser without provision for a new domicile.

The plenum was particularly interested in how the republic's courts were using anti-alcohol legislation, and noted that courts have made many mistakes when dealing with administrative infractions involving public drunkenness. The plenum pointed out that it is permissible to impose administrative punishment for public drunkenness in accordance with the 16 May 85 RSFSR Presidium of the Supreme Soviet decree "Measures to Intensify the Campaign against Drunkenness and Alcoholism and Eliminate the Production of Moonshine" (part 3, article 1) only in cases where the accused has been given administrative punishment for exactly the same offenses twice in the course of a year. Hence, courts hearing cases need to be careful when verifying both the circumstances surrounding the preferment of administrative charges in cases involving the above-noted offenses and the legality and legitimacy of imposing administrative punishment for them.

Liability under part 3, article 1 of the decree may begin only one year after the date administrative punishment is imposed for the previous repetition of the same offense. If a person has received administrative punishment under part 3, article 1 of the decree and commits another offense covered by part 1, article 1 of the decree before a year elapses, he is liable under part 3, article 1 of the decree.

The anti-moonshine campaign is a vital part of the effort to eliminate drunkenness and alcoholism. Every moonshine case must be followed by an investigation to determine whether grain, sugar, or other valuable food products were used, establish the sources of such products, identify the persons involved (including trade enterprise personnel), and deal with holding them accountable.

Because of problems that arose in dealing with these issues, the plenum explained that the "other home-produced hard spirits" indicated in article 158

of the Penal Code included any hard spirits manufactured at home by distillation or any products obtained through fermentation. This refers to homemade wine, beer, kvass, and other drinks made by natural fermentation. When such drinks are made with the intention of later converting them to moonshine or other hard spirits, the activity of the accused qualifies as attempted moonshine production (articles 15 and 158 of the Penal Code). The plenum noted that courts hearing cases involving crimes committed by minors when drunk frequently fail to establish the circumstances surrounding the procurement and consumption of the alcohol. It has been shown that the crimes of minors are frequently committed in a state of drunkenness. Courts should thus be much more responsive to situations in which a minor has been induced to drink, made drunk, or sold alcoholic beverages. They should also deal with the issue of holding people accused of such crimes accountable in accordance with the law. An area the courts should focus particular attention on is the making of a minor drunk when the person inducing the drunkenness is in charge of the minor involved at work.

As noted in speeches at the plenum, one of the keys to eliminating current problems is for the republic's courts to share their successful experiences with both traditional and new techniques. For example, in accordance with the article 30 of the 16 May 1985 RSFSR Presidium of the Supreme Soviet decree noted earlier, peoples courts inform management or the representatives of the appropriate public organization at a person's job, school, or place of residence when he has been given administrative punishment for alcohol-related administrative offenses. The Tatsinskiy Rayon Peoples Court in Rostov Oblast uses this technique extensively.

We need to give the utmost in support to courts that hear cases involving job-sponsored clinic stays only on the condition that the individual return to his labor collective.

In organizing its clinical efforts, the Pervomayskiy Rayon Peoples Court in Krasnodar has been especially interested in making decisions that will help eliminate the causes of drunkenness, crime, and other offenses. It has made interlocutory decisions in one third of the criminal cases of this kind heard in 1985 and monitored compliance with these decisions strictly. At the same time, copies of sentences are sent to the workplace of the individual sentenced, with the case itself discussed at meetings of the labor collective. Frequently, the peoples judges or lay judges take part in the discussion and send a record of the proceedings to the court.

Peoples court judges are working actively with public legal advice bureaus at the enterprises they are responsible for. By order of the chairman of the Stavropolskiy Kray Soviet of the Peoples Court, the judges are responsible for enterprises under the rayon and territory jurisdiction of the rural soviets of peoples deputies. The actual area each is responsible for is based on the electoral okrug division of the region. The judges coordinate their anti-drunkenness efforts with those of economic agencies and the public. Peoples judges also helped the executive committee of the rayon soviet organize a seminar for the chairmen of the commissions against drunkenness and alcoholism. Legal techniques for dealing with violators of alcohol-related laws were discussed.

Comrades courts, which receive regular assistance from the courts, have a major part to play in preventing minor alcohol-related offenses. The peoples judges in Dankovskiy Rayon, Lipetsk Oblast regularly attend comrades court sessions, and afterwards take part in discussing issues that come up.

The plenum's resolution stresses that every effort must be made to: expand and strengthen the ties between the courts and labor collectives; invite representatives of these collectives to court sessions at which current cases involving crimes and other offenses are being heard; send copies of court decisions on these cases to the place of employment, school, or domicile of the offender; make informational presentations on the outcome of these cases at enterprises and organizations; and use other techniques of keeping the public more informed about what the courts are doing.

Efforts to eliminate drunkenness, alcoholism, and moonshine production must be closely coordinated with those of law enforcement and other government agencies.

The plenum's resolution also contains explanations of several other issues relating to usage of anti-alcohol legislation.

The resolution that has been adopted will help mobilize the republic's courts in their efforts to carry out the party and government decisions on eliminating drunkenness and alcoholism, upgrading the courts' role in combatting violations of anti-alcohol legislation, and ensuring that this legislation is applied correctly and uniformly.

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13189
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INTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICIAL ANSWERS LETTERS ON DRUG ADDICTION

Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 24, 15-21 Jun 87 p 12

[Article by USSR Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs Nikolay Demidov: "Tunnel Under Life"; first paragraph is NEDELYA introduction]

[Text] Issue No 13 of NEDELYA contained an article by USSR Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs N. I. Demidov entitled "Death-Tainted Money" which discussed the problem of drug addiction. Many readers of our weekly responded to that item. The editors received official responses, requests for assistance, and alarming signals from focal centers of dope distribution. But the following types of letters were also received: "Why are you badgering the drug addicts? In the last analysis these people are poisoning themselves, and that is their personal affair -- to inject themselves or not." "I have been smoking hashish for a long time now, and I even feel pretty good and I have no wish to rob anyone." "N. Demidov is scraping up every possible horror story about drug addicts in order to have laws adopted which might weaken the procurator's control over the MVD authorities and allow the militia to do anything they please." NEDELYA once again has turned to Nikolay Ivanovich Demidov with a request to comment on the mail received in response to the first article and to describe the current front line situation in the struggle against drug addiction.

The facts themselves are the most convincing. In 1982 a fourteen year old youth of extraordinary ability and only son in a family of doctors became a student at the Kuban Medical Institute. Soon after the boy fell into the company of "joie de vivre" group which was more after big thrills than knowledge within the walls of the VUZ. At first they sought those thrills through alcohol, and then hashish. When the "light" dope lost its bite, they switched to a more serious narcotic, ephedrone. By the age of 17 the Wunderkind became a chronic drug addict. During his fourth year at the VUZ his parents placed him in a district drug treatment center, but the poison had so ruined the boy's health that he had to be moved urgently to a hospital for the treatment of extremely serious heart and liver ailments.

And here are some biographical facts of an adult who is one of the patients at the Moscow Psychiatric Hospital No 15. At the time of the fourth child's birth, the father of the family had been using drugs for more than a year. The youngest daughter had noticeably fallen behind her school mates. At the age

of seven, when her papa had switched from hashish to ephedrone, the little girl could hardly be recognized as a regular school girl. One time after classes she fell under a car on her way home. An inquiry established that the accident was due to the victim's blunted reaction time and her inability to assess what was going on around her. The doctors at the hospital which admitted the dying girl succeeded in reaching her addict father by phone to tell him what had happened. This daddy finally got to the hospital five hours after the phone call when the child had already died. It turned out that the addict had decided that he could be of no help to the child and set out to look for a dose of dope to save himself.

And here is another example. In gratitude for help given to him during a narcotic hangover, a twenty year-old lad started to live with a man who gave him drugs. Subsequently, this lad was traded away in one of the restaurants of city M. Finally, after several attempts to commit suicide he turned up at a psychiatric hospital...

I did not indicate any names because these people so far did not commit any illegal acts. But just think -- are such manifestations of drug addiction really any less dangerous to society than burglary, murder, or rape?

The letters received by NEDELYA really lay it on thick in reproaching me. Citizen Shagulyamov from Tashkent, for example, squeals about the fact that I translated the arabic word "hashish" as "murderer." But I am dealing with the essence of the matter and not in philological details. The fact that a person who has smoked his fill of hashish, anasha, or (plan) sees the world in a distorted state is quite precise. But if someone finds it no more than amusing to see a drug addict climbing over a match on the sidewalk as if it were an enormous log, I, as an MVD official, see that person as a crane operator at a construction site, a truck driver, or let's say, an operator at a nuclear power plant. And here the taint of narcotics does not smack of suicide...

The militia comes up against other manifestations of drug addiction as well. A person with the appearance of being hunted suddenly turns on an unknown passer-by and seriously maims him. We begin an investigation into the matter and find out the following (I shall quote from the interrogation report obtained for one of the detained persons): "This woman got into the habit of coming up to me telling me that he has photographic lens in her eyes and that when she talks to me her eyes photograph me. She also said that as we talk her supervisors hear everything we say. When she left today, a man came out of a mirror. He was dressed in a black raincoat, a black hat, black shoes, and black pants. I ran away. I ran into the street and boarded a bus. I saw that the man was getting on at another bus stop. Suddenly there was a light wind that carried with it the voice of that woman. She said that I was worthy of living and that they would kill me. I took a wrench out my pocket and started to defend myself." The most frightful thing about this was that the addict actually saw all of this in his fantasy world and was sincere in his actions.

I relate this severe case in order to caution people that they should not think that drug addiction is a far-fetched or temporary problem that will go

away by itself. In 99 out of 100 cases, the madman who has driven himself into the dark tunnel of drug addiction through which he rushes along at an ever-increasing speed, not only does not try to return to a normal life, but, on the contrary, strives to retain his condition.

How one gets into such a situation is a difficult question to answer. I am sure that most of the approximately 50,000 addicts who have already been registered will gradually reach their chosen goal. However, there is evidence that among these doomed persons there are some who are still more or less capable of rationally appreciating their situation. Among those who voluntarily asked to be cured of their ailment, quite a few explained that they made that decision because it had become very difficult to find dope. Our data show that the price of narcotics has gone up sharply due to their short supply. This means that cutting off the raw materials base and halting the flow of narcotics from medical institutions and pharmaceutical chemistry enterprises have been effective.

In the course of our national operation to identify illegal plantings of narcotic-containing crops we often find that the responsibility for this kind of "agriculture" lies with people of advanced age. Some of our local officials think that it does not make any sense to bring such cases to court. That attitude is a terrible mistake. A person's age is no reason for justifying such acts.

As before, we have an alarming situation with respect to the loss of narcotics and potent drugs from state institutions. Fifty kilograms of ephedrine, the base used for the manufacture of ephedrone, disappeared from the Tashkent Pharmaceutical Chemistry Plant. Senior nurse Akhmedova of the ophthalmology department at the Tashkent Medical Institute took advantage of the lack of drug control there and stole 1,650 ampules of morphine. An inspection of the Bakhmalskiy Rayon polyclinic in the Dzhizak Oblast established that the personnel there is not aware of the elementary rules governing the storage and release of preparations that are of interest to addicts.

Incidentally, with regard to ephedrine, one might ask is it really necessary to manufacture it? Several medics point out that we do not have any other drug to cure small children of rhinitis. I shall assume that this is so, but isn't the real reason behind that argument the fact that someone is unwilling to take the trouble of finding an effective and safe substitute? I believe it is urgent that we consider the possibility of concentrating potent and narcotic preparations in rayon pharmacies in the cities, where drug addiction is particularly widespread, rather than keep such substances in all pharmacies.

It also would apparently make sense to keep a constant updated record of narcotics and potent substances. We, the militia, have seen that drug addicts are forever discovering new medicinals that are dispensed without a prescription and which can be processed to become sources of dope.

For example, during the first four months of 1987 the number of minors in Uzbekistan who have been registered as narcotics users has grown from 190 to 443 persons. Practically all of them were registered at the initiative of the

MVD, and not at the initiative of their own direct guardians. In Surkhan-Darya Oblast alone we identified five teachers who were growing narcotic-containing crops. Here are their names: Khydayberdyev (sovkhoz "Khazarbag" in Denauskiy Rayon), Seydulayev (sovkhoz "Sotsializm" in Altynsayskiy Rayon), Saryyev (sovkhoz imeni Karl Marx in the same rayon), Khudayulov (sovkhoz "Sovetabad" in Gagarinskiy Rayon), and Zhoniobilov (sovkhoz "Babatag" in Sariasyskiy Rayon)...

In Uzbekistan on May 19 of this year a poppy field covering an area of 16.795 square meters was discovered on a wheat field of one sovkhoz in Samarkand Oblast. And this is not the only case where a harvest of poison has matured on kolkhoz and sovkhoz lands. The Uzbek SSR Agro-Industrial State Committee has now assigned several helicopters and agriculture aircraft to watch for the purpose of identifying poppy fields. This of course is a good thing. But the narcotic plantations which have been described here simply must not be tolerated.

And here are a few more facts.

The stomatologist physician N. resold narcotic-containing analgesics at speculative prices that he had obtained for his mother who was dying of cancer.

Citizeness Khakimova introduced her 17 year old son Vokob to the abuse of narcotics and turned him into a hashish dealer...

A certain Ts. who had maintained a den, in the course of "resolving cadre problems," addicted four young women to narcotics, and by exploiting their dependence on drugs, won them over to debauchery...

As you can see, those who love to become rich by the depraved passion of addicts for narcotics will stop at nothing. And they will not cease their activity unless we stop them.

...Once again I should like to recall the letter which accuses me of laying it on thick. No, I cannot accept that reproach. On the contrary, I am compelled to restrain myself. But we look at the scale of the narcotics threat realistically. Only then will we be able to control it successfully.

6289

CSO: 1800/721

KHABAROVSK OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON MILITIA RESTRUCTURING WORK

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jun 87 p 3

[Interview with Maj. Gen. of the Militia B. Voronov, director of the Khabarovsk Krayispolkom's Internal Affairs Administration, conducted by B. Reznik, under the rubric, "Speaking Openly About Openness": "More Exactly Toward Oneself and Others"; date and place of interview not given; first two paragraphs are unattributed source introduction]

[Text] The process of restructuring has identified serious flaws in the work of law-enforcement agencies. The democratization of public life and wide openness require that legal specialists take a more thoughtful, genuinely professional attitude toward their jobs.

In an interview with our staff correspondent, Maj. Gen. of the Militia B. Voronov, director of the Khabarovsk Krayispolkom's Internal Affairs Administration, reflects on the difficult paths of renewal, problems and searches.

[Question] Boris Vasilyevich, here is a telegram that arrived at IZVESTIYA's correspondents' station. To all intents and purposes, it is addressed to you: "Huge thanks for the help. In the presence of a party organizer, the director of the rayon militia department apologized to me for the actions of Savateyeva, inspector for corrective work. The guilty person was relieved of her duties for persecution. Ivaneyko." So that readers will understand, I shall explain: N. Ivaneyko, sentenced to corrective work, requested that the enterprise management give him several days to be counted as leave. During these days he visited Moscow and appealed to IZVESTIYA's reception bureau with a complaint regarding his judicial case. And when he returned to Komolsk-on-Amur, he found out that Sr. Lt. of the Militia N. Savateyeva, inspector for corrective work of the city's Central Rayon Internal Affairs Department, who had taken a hostile attitude toward him, had prepared and forwarded to the people's court for its examination materials calling for corrective work to be replaced with deprivation of freedom--for violation of the regulations governing the serving of his sentence. I forwarded Ivaneyko's complaint to your department. And there's the reaction.

[Answer] We found out that Ivaneyko had not violated regulations, whereas Inspector Savateyeva had disregarded both the law and official instructions in sending the case to court, for which she received strict punishment.

If a militia officer to any extent violates the law, he has no place in our ranks. We all firmly adhere to such a line: the executives, political department and party committee of the kray internal affairs administration. It is not simple, but extremely essential. In the past two years more than one-fourth of the entire executive staff of the internal affairs administration's subdivisions has been replaced.

[Question] The demand to strictly observe socialist legality, and strict punishments for disregarding the norms have resulted in a sharp reduction in the number of detentions and arrests. Won't someone now, out of a fear of making a mistake, be afraid of taking appropriate measures against real lawbreakers?

[Answer] It can't be ruled out. And that, incidentally, is just as much an index of an officer's professional unfitness as an illegal arrest. If such a thing takes place as the result of poor professional training, a person must be taught. If it's out of a fear of responsibility, he must be removed. For unprincipled cowardness is frightening at all levels of life, and on the legal level especially. Therefore, I want to stress: If we have managed to drastically reduce, one may say, reduce to zero, the number of illegal arrests and detentions, that is mainly because militia officers have started to work more professionally and to probe more deeply into the essence of matters. Although, of course, only the first steps have been taken on a long and difficult path of restructuring.

[Question] Boris Vasilyevich, you took over as head of agencies of the kray internal affairs administration more than two years ago, when the times were difficult for them: a group of degenerates who had merged with criminal elements and themselves started to commit grave crimes had been uncovered in the criminal investigation administration. This seriously undermined the prestige of the local militia. But in preparing for our interview I visited the Dalenergomash, Daldizel and Amurkabel plants and spoke with workers. They demonstrated an enviable knowledgeability about the militia's current affairs and its plans, and commented with respect and approval on the changes that are taking place in the work of the internal affairs agencies.

[Answer] We went "to the people" at a time that really was very difficult. We honestly and openly told people in labor collectives about the negative phenomena and serious omissions in our work. We said bluntly that all this had been possible as a result of the fact that the militia had remained for a long time outside the field of public attention and outside criticism. We asked them to judge our work in a strict and principled fashion. In short, we called for "fire at ourselves." When we received the results of surveys and questionnaires we realized: it was with good reason that the lovers of pleasant quiet from our administration had so vigorously rebelled against open discussion with people, claiming that all this would even further "undermine prestige." Indeed, they had something to get upset over: only 30 percent of those surveyed gave the work of our main level--the precinct inspectors--a

grade of "satisfactory." The questionnaires told us how alarming the operational situation was in the consumer-services sphere, to which drunkenness and, along with it, crime, had migrated.

Amursk became the first city in the kray where the public at large and the militia, under the direction of the CPSU gorkom and the city soviet, carried out Operation Barrier. Our officers identified, on our city map, the neighborhoods where the number of thefts, acts of hooliganism and other incidents was the greatest. Round-the-clock duty by operational groups and volunteer militia aides was organized at these "points." Round-the-clock! The aim was to cut off the "air" to violators of the public order and to identify those from whom, judging from their way of life, unpleasantness might be expected in the future. In the course of this operation many discoveries, sometimes utterly unexpected, were made. For example, the following: in a city in which hundreds of families have been waiting for years for their turn for housing to come up, suddenly 84 empty apartments were discovered. And throughout the kray as a whole (Operation Barrier was carried out in other cities and settlements), there turned out to be 362 empty apartments! You can imagine the effect this discovery produced--it was as though a new housing development had sprung up on vacant land overnight. How? From where? We started to try to find out and reached the conclusion that many economic executives and housing administration employees, having lost control over the housing stock, simply did not know what was going on behind the walls of the apartment buildings entrusted to them.

Tens of thousands of kray residents took part in Operation Barrier, and its main result was not just the number of persons identified, detained and placed in jobs, but a recognition of the indisputable truth that any undertaking produces results only if it is done cooperatively, openly and in consultation with the residents of cities and settlement. With citizens! And to this end everyone--from precinct officer to director of the internal affairs administration--must continually visit plants, factories, kolхозes and sovkhoses.

We report on our work in thorough detail, and we frequently ask for advice and help. As a rule, moreover, the discussion takes place not across the presidium table but in shops and brigades. Now people know us and see us more frequently, and this means that they trust us more and turn to us more often with their concerns.

[Question] I have lived in Khabarovsk for more than 15 years, and only comparatively recently did I meet my precinct inspector. He is a courteous, very sociable junior lieutenant of the militia who went to every apartment in our building and asked who lived there and left a calling card with his address and phone number. He organized a volunteer law-and-order post in the apartment building. And recently a captain with the State Motor Vehicle Inspectorate, our neighbor from the first entryway, said that we should turn to him if the need arose at any time of day.

[Answer] I began work in the agencies as a precinct inspector and know that service very well, and I say that the precinct inspector is the main figure in the militia. He is the closest to people and should know better than all the

rest how to control an operational situation and to foresee and prevent violations of order. Citizens judge the militia as a whole by the precinct inspector. If the precinct inspector is bad, then everyone will be fed up with matters on his territory--criminal investigation, the department for combating the embezzlement of socialist property and speculation, the fire inspectorate, etc.

But what sort of approach have we taken to them until recently? An inexperienced officer would get assigned to a precinct, and if he committed an offense, he would be made a precinct inspector. We realized that only by radically changing that attitude and raising the prestige of the precinct inspector and creating all the necessary conditions for his work could we count on success. The foremost conditions are that the precinct inspector should always be available to citizens, live in his precinct and have a telephone. The CPSU kraykom and kray soviet ispolkom met us halfway: 70 percent of the precinct inspectors have already received well-appointed apartments and telephone service in their places of work. We very much hope that in the near future this problem will be fully solved.

[Question] Whoever is striving to work in a new way probably has an especially keen sense of everything that is holding back and interfering with this, and the burden of former traditions. Can you give some examples?

[Answer] Take, for example, the infamous "system of indices," against which IZVESTIYA has already spoken out. I fully agree that the system of "marks" and formal indices has done and continues to do irreparable damage to our legal justice system. According to it, what is important is not being but seeming. It is aimed at painting over and erasing the real picture of life, unattractive though it may be, in the most dishonest fashion, merely in order to look as good as possible in the eyes of one's superiors.

You recently wrote about the case of Shobey, who had been illegally convicted of speculation in seeds. We closely studied the reasons for this illegality and determined that it was based on that same window-dressing and desire to raise the percentage of uncovered cases of speculation. It would seem that everyone would have to draw a moral lesson from this. But just recently there was a phone call from above: "You have somehow lowered the indices."

Yes, for example, this January we had fewer cases of speculation in which charges were brought than we did last January. But this is a result of the fact that we have stepped up the campaign against one of the primary causes of speculation--the secret putting aside of scarce goods. Officers of the department for combating the embezzlement of socialist property and speculation continually conduct raids at the goods warehouses and auxiliary premises of stores. In just one of them they found nearly 250,000 rubles' worth of "husbanded" scarce goods. And if even a part of these goods had fallen into the hands of speculators? How many criminal cases could have been brought? But is this our goal?

By what criteria should our work be judged? In my view, a complete and scientifically substantiated answer to that question should be provided by scholars and legal specialists on the basis of new approaches and serious conclusions drawn from old mistakes.

LOCAL LAW OFFICIALS SENTENCED FOR HOLDING UNJUST TRIALS

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 14 Jun 87 p 6

[Article by A. Blekh, member of the Krasnodar Kray Court, under the rubric "The Law Is the Same for Everyone": "Sentence for the Procurator"]

[Text] Few people in the city heard about this trial, which ended recently in Krasnodar. It took place in a tiny courtroom in the Pervomayskiy Rayon Court, which had difficulty accommodating its participants. Yet the case deserved wider publicity. It is not every day and not every year that the RSFSR Supreme Court meets in a provincial city, and that the prosecution is conducted by an assistant to the USSR Procurator General. And this fact indicates the unusualness of the case that it tried.

At the end of last year I. Chermenskiy, deputy USSR procurator general, confirmed an indictment of V. Shchegol, former procurator of Krasnodar's Otyabrskiy Rayon, and A. Kegeyan, senior investigator of the same procuracy. They were charged with committing a crime against legal justice. Its essence is that through the juggling of facts and illegal methods of conducting an investigation, Shchegol and Kegeyan had charged the Abolmasov couple with committing a grave crime--the murder of two people, one of whom was the accused man's mother. On the basis of fabricated charges, Gennadiy Abolmasov was sentenced by the kray court to the extreme penalty on 29 June 1983.

Fortunately, the sentence had not yet been carried out when a 26-year-old man who called himself Karagodin came to the militia line department at Mogilev Station and declared that he had committed the murder of the two people in Krasnodar. An investigation confirmed the truthfulness of his confession.

How had it happened that the experienced criminal-law specialists had made such a mistake? In order to understand what had happened, it is necessary to discuss what really happened on a February night in 1983.

Ye. Karagodin murdered his friend's mother A. O. Abolmasova and her lodger, the student V. Kovalev. "I was after money," he would tell the court. He had known this family since the fifth grade and was in good favor with "Aunt Olya," as he called Abolmasova. For many years he had helped her make brushes for sale.

Several years prior to the crime, Karagodin had left for Siberia. He had gotten married. He took the path of crime, he believes, after winning a car in the Sprint. He sold his ticket for double the price and went on a binge. So much so that he didn't sober up until the end of 1982, when his easy money ran out. He was living at the time in Mogilev Oblast and working as a crane operator in the port. He didn't make bad money, but it wasn't enough for a "stylish" life. Then he remembered: Aunt Olya would come home from the market place, sit down to the table, rustle her bills, carefully wrap them in handkerchiefs and then put them up in little glasses, as in envelopes, in the sideboard.

It seemed the easiest thing possible to rob an elderly person. Nonetheless, Karagodin didn't risk it alone and took his friend G. Demidov along with him. In order not to frighten him, he did not tell him right away about the true purpose of the trip. But when they arrived by plane in Krasnodar, he showed his hand. Demidov, however, categorically refused to take part in the robbery. That did not stop Karagodin. He went to Abolmasova's alone. In the building everyone was already asleep. "Good gracious, Zhenya's come!" She opened the door, hugged him, started bustling about and made the bed.

When Aunt Olya and her lodger fell asleep, Karagodin killed them in their sleep. He took the unlucky packets of money from the sideboard--7,000 rubles. He turned out the lights and left, leaving distinct traces of his presence: a photograph with his signature, signed at the time of his previous visit, a loan note and, finally, a telegram from his wife that was only a day old--she had been looking for him at Aunt Olya's.

The procurator at the time, Shegol, and senior investigator Kegeyan, who arrived at the scene of the crime, failed to notice all these traces. They got the idea of another version: the mother had been killed by her son, who was living with his family at the other end of the city. Only to him could she have opened the door at night.

Someone timidly objected: "But they have a five-year-old son at home. Abolmasov's wife is pregnant, and he himself is disabled."

"All the better! Hold them until they confess. The wife could not help knowing where her husband was at night. The main thing is--prepare a report: an especially dangerous crime has been uncovered.

The report went to the kray officials and to Moscow.

But what sort of evidence was there for the suspicion? Where are the grounds for arrest as stipulated by law? That is one of the first extremely flagrant violations of the law committed in the fabricated case against Abolmasov, and altogether there were more than 100 of these violations.

The Abolmasovs attempted to defend themselves, but they came up against a solid wall of indifference. They brought in evidence of an irrefutable alibi,

but no one wanted to bother with it. "You, and only you, are the murderers!" And so the wheel of a second, no less serious, crime started rolling.

G. Abolmasov courageously held up for three and a half months, not wanting to confess to something he was not guilty of. His health let him down: losing all his strength, he gave up. For the last two days he wrote, to dictation, the "confession of guilt" that was demanded of him. One would like to know just how he was supposed to have shown up to make his confession, when he had been held under lock the whole time. The pen fell out of his hands, and he lost consciousness. The emergency medical team came. They gave him some shots, and then the accusers continued their dictation. Having thereby obtained confessions, they faked all the remaining evidence.

The verdict of the RSFSR Supreme Court indicates that the reason for the commission of the crime was careerism, the pursuit of undeserved "laurels," and the desire to look more professional than was actually the case. The desire to hide their true essence as smart operators in the law behind favorable indices.

Unfortunately, this is not the only case in recent times in the kray. The Abolmasov case resembles, like peas in a pod, a case fabricated by the Labinsk Procurator and militia against V. Novoseltsev, who was charged with murdering his neighbor. The difference is only that the careerists from the law ended up in the defendant's dock in the Abolmasov case, while those involved in the Novoseltsev case got promotions. V. Burlachenko, chief of the Labinsk City Internal Affairs Department, is now in Sochi as deputy chief of the internal affairs administration, and the procurator Yu. Lapkin, who received a party penalty, has been transferred to be chief of the kray procuracy's general supervision department.

The Abolmasov case, again, helps us to understand the reason for such growth in the face of such flagrant professional blunders. Under pressure from public organizations, the kray procuracy was forced, as it seems to me, to bring criminal charges based on the fact of the impermissible conduct of the investigation of the Abolmasovs, merely for the sake of appearances. After waiting exactly two months D. Magamadov, the kray procuracy's senior investigator, dropped the criminal charges "because of the absence of the elements of a crime in anyone's actions." The extent to which this corresponded to the truth is already known.

Until the very last moment, Gennadiy Abolmasov did not lose hope in the court. He was certain that in the course of its investigation the court would carefully recheck everything and be able to sort the truth out from the falsehood. After all, only the materials of the judicial investigation could be used as the basis for a verdict. Yes, that's the way it should have been. But, as already stated, the innocent man was convicted. The assistant to the kray procurator, who took part in the trial, not only supported the charges but demanded the death penalty. And the court, submissively repeating the version of the preliminary investigation--after all, Abolmasov had confessed at the time!--agreed with the procurator.

The plenum of the USSR Supreme Court seriously admonished the courts about the danger of overestimating the evidential significance of a confession of guilt by the accused. It especially stressed that certain judges base their conclusion regarding a defendant's guilt solely on his admissions and not on their evaluation of all the evidence studied during the trial. The defendant's explanations are frequently rejected for the same reasons, which indicate an attempt to shift the responsibility for proving innocence onto the defendant himself, which is categorically forbidden by law. Here that's the way everything happened. Which of the judges is guilty of such a fatal mistake? Thirty-five years of judicial work gives me the right to say: first and foremost, the heads of the kray court. Judge for yourself: They assigned the trial of this by no means ordinary case to a novice. It is no wonder he lost his bearings because of such "trust." Two brutally murdered people; no direct evidence against the accused; and he changes his testimony. Passions were heated in the overflowing courtroom: "A son murdered and robbed his mother!" In such an atmosphere it would be difficult not to lose one's bearings and not to believe the procurators. Especially if you lacked experience and your judicial courage had not grown strong.

The kray court treated the trial of V. Novoseltsev's case with the same irresponsibility. The Labinsk City People's Court returned the case to the procurator after clearly substantiating that there was no evidence of Novoseltsev's guilt in the murder of his neighbor, and the procurator lodged a protest with the kray court. And again another new member of the kray court submissively doffed his hat to the procurator, carrying out the orders of the kray court. The Labinsk City People's Court sentenced the innocent man to eight years' deprivation of freedom. A complaint from Novoseltsev arrived at the kray court: "I am innocent!" His lawyer's justifiable demands: "Repeal and close the case--you have convicted an innocent person."

But who could figure that out, if the heads of the court, literally some two hours prior to the trial of the case, once again entrusted it to an even more inexperienced novice, whose length of service on the kray court was not even three months as of that time. Naturally, in that amount of time he did not even have time to read the case through, much less analyze it. And once again, another extremely grave mistake.

Not a single institute turns out prepared judges. Candidates for this post are carefully selected from among the best legal specialists. This is a responsible job and brooks no haste. It is not so difficult to identify someone's knowledge, but it is much more difficult to verify a person's moral maturity. In the quiet of an office, on the basis of questionnaires and character references, you will not distinguish a principled person from a time-server, a courageous one from a coward, a just one from an indifferent one. Only the collective in which the candidate has worked can answer these questions. There you can't hide behind a questionnaire. But we have not yet learned how to listen to a collective. The new is making its way with difficulty, and right now, in the pre-election period, the infamous paper style keeps making itself felt from time to time.

For the unwarranted conviction of Abolmasov and Novoseltsev, the judges who took part in the trial of these cases have received harsh party and disciplinary penalties, up to and including early recall. Yet no one has answered for the failure of personnel work.

But who should answer and to whom? The kray and oblast courts find themselves in a strange position. Whereas the people's judges regularly report to constituents, there is no one to whom the members of the kray court must report, although they are elected by a session of the kray soviet. It would seem that they should also report to a session, but somehow I cannot recall such a case.

The kray soviet's standing committee for socialist legality does not bestow its attention on the kray court, either. I cannot remember a case, either, in which it thoroughly analyzed our work and the personnel makeup of the court, made recommendations and took action. Soon the staffs of the kray and oblast courts will be formed, and it seems that the issues of openness and the open selection of personnel should find a place in this sphere, as well.

These are the thoughts prompted by the trial in Krasnodar about which hardly anyone knew. And how did it end? The RSFSR Supreme Court sentenced Shchegol and Kegeyan to corrective-labor work and recovered material damages caused to Abolmasov from them in the amount of more than 6,000 rubles for a crime against justice. The sentence is a harsh warning to those who would like to continue living today in an atmosphere of impunity and permissiveness, covering themselves with their official positions, like a shield.

8756

CSO: 1800/687

CRIME, CORRUPTION UNCOVERED IN GOLD-PANNING COOPERATIVES

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 13 May 87 pp 2, 5

[Article by V. Kapelkin and V. Tsekov: "You Would Never Have Dreamed This!-- Why Many Members of Gold Mining Artels Are Taking up Crime"; first two paragraphs are source introduction]

[Text] Hired killers are always cold-blooded and business-like. These bought a double-barreled sawed-off shotgun and shells for it in advance. In a remote spot on the bank of a lake they practiced, shooting at paper targets. By the time that the customer determined the day and the hour of the attempt. their preparations were complete.

Who would expect point-blank shots while hurrying to work at 0700? The man came out of the entryway and fumbled in his pocket for the garage key. In the next minute he staggered backward away from a motorcycle that came out of nowhere; he collapsed on the ground, having received two loads of buckshot. His dying cry reached only the two helmeted riders on the motorcycle, flying off like an arrow.

Afterward too everything went precisely according to plan. They picked up the signal man from his post where he had given the motorcycle riders the sign that the victim was coming out of his building. The gunman and his gun (the weapon was later thrown into a stream) switched to a car waiting at an appointed place. Then they raced off to populated places to lose themselves in the crowd and support their alibis.

Is this a vignette from Chicago gangster life? No, this happened in Chita. And it was not in some secret gang, it was in a legal cooperative organization, the Yuzhnaya prospectors artel [work team] of the Zabaykalskoye [Transbaikalian Gold] Association. But what difference is there between a criminal group and the artel if it was Yu. Tkhorik, head of the Yuzhnaya artel, who gave his personnel chauffeur V. Rudy instructions to remove V. Maksimenko, his deputy, and advanced 29,700 rubles for the doomed man's head?

Maksimenko was not expecting a threat from his friends. After all, Tkhorik, in general an authoritative and temperamental man, clearly was well-disposed toward his deputy. They had maintained their friendship for many years, shared a bachelor apartment and table like brothers, and took vacations

together. The friendship began to break up when Maksimenko made plans to get married. The artel chief panicked, feared every new person around him, and did everything possible to stop the marriage. And when it did not work, he "went for broke," just like in a card game.

When they started scaring Maksimenko and threatening him by telephone, he shared his doubts about traps being laid with V. Rudy and another one of the "executioners," S. Ivanyuk, also a Yuzhnaya artel driver. Rudy assured his comrade that he would help him, even though he had at that time already deposited in the bank the thousands paid by the customer, Tkhorik, and delivered to him in a newspaper. S. Ivanyuk did not intend to be a witness either; he was already thinking about building a house and buying a car with his earnings from the murder. The actual killers wavered even less; they were S. Sapunov and N. Buglak, students at the Khabarovsk Railway Transportation Engineers School, who had never seen Maksimenko before. And why shouldn't they have a little fun, make a little money? It was exciting, like in a popular Western movie: bang-bang from a motorcycle.

What kind of an artel is this, where certain workers prepare to murder another worker on the orders of the chief and with his money? Unfortunately, behind the title of cooperative organization in which all are equal, issues are decided together, the board of directors answer to the collective, and so on, there was a gang of criminals who were making fabulous nonlabor incomes. The old hand Tkhorik was shown to have stolen 160,000 rubles. There was not even a shadow of cooperative democracy in his artel. "Tkhorik is a terrifying person," it was said in court. "A human life means nothing to him. He loves to set people against one another, spread damaging rumors..."

He ran the artel like a Cossack ataman [chief]. It is hard to imagine harsher authority than where a directive to kill is carried out without a hitch. "Tkhorik does not repeat an order, or you are done with good-paying work," V. Rudy said, spreading his hands in impotence. Each person had to know his own very narrow sector of the "good-paying work." If some prospector showed a lawful interest in the artel's affairs, he would be hit with the ominous question: do you work for OBKhSS [Department for the Fight against Theft of Socialist Property and Speculation]?

You would expect that all Chita Oblast would rise up against these perverts. But the story was not a sensation. In the gold-prospecting regions this is almost an ordinary occurrence; you practically look for criminal activities to happen there. In the Druzhba artel of the same Zabaykalzoloto Association 150,000 rubles was stolen. Sixteen people were charged at one time in the Zabaykalye cooperative; 3 million rubles had been spent. And it is the same in other regions. Nearly a million was stolen in the Kazakhstan artel. The gang of dealers was headed by the chief himself, Dyachenko. The criminals do not take money only; they also take precious metal. And why not, if a market has been arranged? There are endless examples of this. So we will restrict ourselves to just this one.

In these days when cooperatives are growing like mushrooms, we will undertake to caution those who are pleased at the sight of such a sign. This progressive form of economic activity, which unquestionably opens up great opportunities for honest, enterprising, and business-like people, has also proved very convenient for fast dealers and criminals who use cooperative democracy and economic independence cleverly to rob and steal, just as they might use a knife, pistol, or lock-pick.

For those who do not know it, we will note that the prospectors' artel today is not the kind of group of forest wanderers with picks and shovels that they see in Shishkov's "Ugryum-reka" [Gloomy River]. The modern-day gold-hunter has mounted a Komatsu bulldozer the size of a taiga house or a giant floating dragline. In terms of technical equipment and number of employees (for example, the Pechora artel has 1,500 employees) it is a mining enterprise that equals subdivisions of the Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy.

The initial idea that guided the ministry in setting up artels was simple and obvious. The statute on prospecting states that "it is permitted in closed-cycle gold-mining enterprises, sections, and facilities, and also at small deposits whose exploitation by state enterprises is inexpedient." In other words, cooperatives should appear in those places where it is unprofitable for the state to engage in mining on an industrial scale. So it would seem that everything is correct and according to the laws of socialism.

But the word "unprofitable" was unbearable to the ears of the founders of the artels. Adopting new and, as has now been learned, generous forms of economic activity, especially where there was inadequate control by their ministry and other departments, with time they posed for themselves the strategic objective of getting into rich placer deposits where gold could be dug with a shovel, or even better with a bulldozer! And quite a few succeeded. V. Chupin, head of the production department for prospecting of the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, today asserts the sad fact that our mining enterprises are giving the artels deposits with industrial-scale reserves of gold.

And the barriers have been surmounted with bribes. It is precisely for favors and services that the artels have been given "favorable" decisions and permits. There is fast dealing on the management level of mining enterprises, and it goes on in a way that would make the Lockheed Company, which is an expert in large "deals," envy some artels.

A. Sergiyenko, the chief of the Nurata artel, "greased the palm" of A. Kakharov, general director of the Uzbeksoloto [Uzbek Gold] Association with 13,000 rubles, preparing the soil, it seems, for an outstanding deal. Kakharov proposed that they work the Zarnitsa deposit, with its high gold content. The cost of a gram would be the same, the "general" said, trying to build up his own importance, as for mining in sections where the gold content was only half as high. In return all he wanted was...10 percent of all earnings from the Zarnitsa deposit. This monstrous 10 percent put Sergiyenko in a quandary. He agonized over it, and then completely refused. The Chatkal artel, headed by the more decisive and, judging by everything, more calculating chief--the thief O. Pashchenko--was put on the rich placer under the same conditions.

The right to conduct geological exploration independently offered the artels fantastic opportunities. The artel "godfathers" immediately starting luring the most highly qualified geologists and surveyors away from state enterprises with top pay. Already in the stage of preparing planning documents for exploitation of the deposits (one more right that the prospectors cooperatives have, strangely, acquired) a strong foundation is laid for super-profits. Everything that it helps them to overstate, they overstate, but where it is advantageous to understate, they do that. In a large majority of the artel documents the percentage content of gold in the rock is less than the actual percentage. And the calculated price of a gram of extracted metal is two and three times the actual price. This alone, according to modest calculations, enables each artel to receive 1-1.5 million rubles of unrecorded profit each year, or hundreds and thousands of grams of unrecorded metal.

For example, what happens if you overstate the thickness of the overburden? This automatically increases the volume of work, results in record productivity of earthmoving machinery, and conserves fuel and spare parts. That is the profitability you need for statistical reports!

Incidentally, to eliminate all the "bottlenecks" and to protect the vitally important interests of the artel a system of "supply men" has been set up with thousands of people covering the entire country. These very mobile and very rich people perform miracles; they can even obtain imported heavy-duty machinery such as, for example Caterpillar and Komatsu bulldozers and means of transportation and equipment bought for hard currency and specifically designated for state enterprises. Even dredgers!

One gets enlisted as a "supply man" on the basis of special talents and authoritative recommendations. For example, M. Bykadorov, an aggressive and well-mannered Moscow photographer, was able to use his relationship, even though distant, with one of the most prominent figures in the prospectors movement (in the criminal sector, of course), S. Butkevich, deputy chief of the Pechora artel. And it was APN photo reporter Yu. Somov that actually brought him together with members of the Yuzhnaya artel. Recommendations from people who were so prominent in their milieu were enough for the brand new "supply man" to be given a salary of 600 rubles a month; his sponsor-general was not ashamed to mention this sum. But this hefty salary was only for a start, something like a student stipend. After going through a probationary period he received about 23,000 rubles a year plus bonuses and 45,000 for expenses. Was this reported? How can we put it? Artel chief Yu. Tkhorik gave Bykadorov these parting instructions: if there are documents, report it to the bookkeeping department; if not, report to me, spoken not written. It is my artel, and my money.

Using the reported and unreported thousands of rubles he bought all kinds of scarce goods, delicacies, and Japanese tape recorders on Tkhorik's order. Once he even got a pleasant little cottage by the Sea of Azov for his boss, and recorded it in his own name. Tkhorik entrusted the efficient, tight-lipped "supply man" with an even bigger job--deliver 15,000 in cash to I. Maryanovskiy, V. Chupin's predecessor as chief of the production department

for prospecting at the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy. Tkhorik had gotten to know Maryanovskiy at dinners together in stylish Moscow restaurants.

L. Ostrovskiy, a graduate of the Moscow Conservatory and "supply man" for the Tayga, Lena, and Sogdiana artels was also very successful in dealings. He once served in two artels at the same time. And he specialized exclusively in illegal deliveries, for when the Tayga artel was audited they did not find a single document showing that any materials, spare parts, or equipment had been obtained through Ostrovskiy.

Let us look into his creative laboratory. Carrying fabricated letters on stationery of the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy and the Lenzoloto [Lena Gold] Association, he walked into the USSR Ministry of Agricultural Machine Building and received very authentic stamps of approval on them from P. Yevdokimenko, deputy chief of the Soyuztraktor [USSR Tractor] VPO [All-Union Production Association]. In return the grateful artel enrolled Yevdokimenko's son-in-law, a certain M. Vysotskiy, as a "supply man." And L. Ostrovskiy was not working for nothing either. His aged father, a category No 1 invalid, was "taken on" by the artel as a shipping clerk. Neither of the Moscow "prospectors" gave work a thought, and their pay came to them by mail.

The turbulent, but secret activity of the "supply men" still awaits its chronicler. In Tajikistan they helped an artel receive several heavy-duty BelAZ trucks which were designated for entirely different places and departments. "Supply men" efficiently delivered freight to Bolshevik Island in the Arctic, which the Polyus cooperative was trying to conquer, using airplanes from heavy-duty aviation transport! Nothing is impossible!

But let us go back from the invisible front to the forward edge of mining. What are the "godfathers" who have established themselves on rich placers doing? Crooks would not be crooks if, even with the best machinery and first-class specialists, they did quality work. And indeed, the artels do their mining like predators, skim off the cream and leave desolation behind them. Checks of processed rock showed that residual gold was 15-25 percent higher than permissible levels. Thus each year many tons of gold do into dump heaps, where recapture is complex and unprofitable.

There has been an alarming, abnormal trend in recent years for the proportion of metal mined by prospectors to increase while the proportion of state enterprises goes down. Thus, the situation has been turned around--the Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy is now content with those sections that the godfathers have rejected.

Having gathered the gold veins into their clutches under the slogans of cooperative democracy, the artel godfathers have taken care to see that actual democracy exists only in words. If we disregard for a minute the machinery and other present-day features, the working and living conditions of the rank-and-file prospector today are not much different from those of his prerevolutionary predecessor. He works like the damned from dawn to dusk, with no time off. The level of worker mobility in artels reaches 90 percent. The Labor Code is not observed.

The meager, spartan life of ordinary prospectors is one more component of the brilliant cost accounting. No white stone palaces are built for the wordless seasonal workers. They are housed in dilapidated huts, dugouts, and shacks, just like in the last century.

When one of us visited the base of the Pechora artel in Ukhta, two knowledgeable people, the bookkeepers L. Komarov and S. Savchenko, picturesquely describing the unprecedented flourishing of the cooperative system, did not miss a chance to emphasize that the main purpose of the artel was not at all to extract the scorned yellow metal--it was to indoctrinate the prospectors in the spirit of the ideals of communism, involve them in public life, and develop competition, as it says in the artel charter. Apparently the adversity and deprivation that we saw is also part of the program for molding consciousness.

But how do the incomes and lives of the godfathers fit with this? They often have 45,000 rubles of pay per manager per year. When the auditors calculated the legal income of V. Tumanov, the chief of Pechora, it turned out that there is no one else like him in our country's experience. A USSR minister receives several times less per year. And if we consider also the widespread family involvement in the artels, only a rare businessman can compete with the godfathers. M. Melnikov, chief of the Irtysh cooperative, with his secretary-wife, son, son-in-law, and wife's sister, pumped about 380,000 rubles out of the prospectors account in a five-year period.

It is clear that such highly-paid and formidable people cannot live in dugouts or leaking tents and sleep on bunks. The silent watchman at the base of the Pechora artel showed us the fine, comfortable towers and cottages of the godfathers and Tumanov's two-story mansion. The furniture, furnishings, and carpets are all the very best. Their health and recreation is promoted by several indoor swimming pools with fine, perfectly pure water and luxurious saunas; plants are flourishing in the greenhouses. And the man in charge of the dining hall is a chef from a top Moscow restaurant.

But V. Tumanov is not the type to spend long chilling his bones in a little arctic city. He prefers to manage the artel from a distance, and spends 250 days a year away on business. If he is doing business in the capital he stays in a fine apartment assigned to his son at the Lebed Housing Cooperative; if he is warming himself in the southern sun he stops at one of his own private homes, in Pyatigorsk or Miskhorsk. Tumanov has a "fleet" of several cars at different places in the country, paid for by the artel. Of course, his high style of living requires arrangements, so he cannot get along without special services. Tumanov's Miskhorsk home is guarded and maintained by two highly qualified servants. And another trusted assistant, a certain V. Shekhtman, awaits his instructions on the streets of Moscow.

With the same purpose as newly rich merchants in the old days bought aristocratic heralds and titles, the godfathers seek out acquaintances with well-known poets, artists, writers, and actors, build bridges to ministries and departments, and fraternize with journalists. It is not just a matter of "respect," a vain desire to impress the world. The servants of the muses and the press form a dependable lobby to protect them from the law. When the

storm was gathering over Tumanov, for example, prestigious "friends" became alarmed and tried to petition for this "very honest and deserving man."

It is too bad his "friends" do not know some of the details of his biography. Tumanov has four marks on his criminal record, but he recalls only one, and that unwillingly. It was for the notorious Article 58, and he depicts himself as an innocent victim of the cult. He became infatuated with poetry, he says, read Yesenin, and for that he suffered. Let us correct Vadim Ivanovich: he was convicted for anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda, and there were not and are not grounds for his rehabilitation. The other cases could not possibly be linked to love of verse--they are simply crime. First he stole money with forged documents to pay for bouts of drinking in Vladivostok restaurants. Then there was a group attack on a savings bank in Kolyma, aggravated by homicide. Then another theft, and this mark on his criminal record was when he was already engaged in his noble prospecting work.

And now this recidivist who hangs around with masters of the word has taken up the pen himself. His opus "Life without Lying" came out in OGONEK (No 4, this year). It is a lie immediately, the way V. Tumanov introduces himself as a manager of an enterprise and a geologist. What can he have to do with the science of the earth and its interior if even the 7 years of education he lists in his application are false (in fact he only finished 6)?

Tumanov lives by lying and nothing more. He spent the war years thousands of kilometers from the front, and now he passes himself off as a veteran of combat. At an earlier time, when Tumanov was less bold, he himself wrote in one of his applications: "I did not take part in fighting." But it appears that he developed a taste for the privileges of a veteran, and he has already latched onto an order, received on the 40th anniversary of the Victory. The certification as a war veteran was supposedly issued to Tumanov in Yalta. The military commissariat denies this. Is it a forgery?

After making acquaintances and connections "upstairs," the godfathers try to squeeze everything they can out of them. They secured the bonds of friendship with P. Zhmurko, deputy USSR ministry of nonferrous metallurgy, by enrolling his son-in-law in the Polyus artel. With the help of this highly-placed executive they set up a real conveyor line of theft. The members of the lobby were also encouraged by what happened when the facts of Zhmurko's criminal ties with the artels were disclosed: he was transferred to be deputy chief of a main administration and and to work with copper instead of gold. The godfathers without hesitation take care of their most devoted servants at their own expense. Bapsanov, chief of the administration of internal affairs of the Semipalatinsk Oblispolkom, for example, was enrolled in the Irtys artel by the "combined jobs" method, receiving 800-900 rubles a month for this. It would be interesting to know what methods he perfected--the methods of grand theft?

The bosses of the artels are especially careful to cultivate ties with the USSR Procurators Office. This has already paid off. For example, S. Gusev, during his days as investigator of especially important cases, was able to put a stop to the criminal case against Tumanov's son in Gagarinskiy Rayon of Moscow. It is true that he charged daddy quite a bit: 30,000 rubles.

The facts which we extracted from L. Odaryuk, chief of the administration of accounting and control of the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, also force one to think. Departmental auditors came upon one of the ways the artels enrich themselves illegally. The ministry officially called on the USSR Procurators Office to investigate and bring charges against the millionaire-thiefs. The procurators moved so slowly in following up that sometimes it seemed there was no movement at all. The investigation of the Zabaykalye artel has already been going on for 6 years, and no end to the bureaucratic delay can be seen. Crimes in the Sogdiana artel were investigated at a snail's pace, and investigations are dragging on in the Khingan and other artels. What is worse, many documents in the criminal file of the Tayga artel disappeared without a trace while held by the USSR Procurators Office. And Yu. Zverev, the investigator for especially important cases who should answer for this, was simply removed from his position.

For their part the godfathers are showing enviable mobility, leaving the crippled machine of law enforcement far behind. The technique has been developed: as soon as a case begins to look dangerous, they disband the artel and destroy the documents. Then they immediately form a new cooperative, sometimes even with the former name. And the mechanism of theft goes back into action.

"We have somewhat neglected this kind of production activity," V. Rudakov, deputy USSR minister of nonferrous metallurgy, admitted. That is certainly true--they let the reins go, if they in fact ever held them. A bunch of omnipotent wheeler-dealers, harnessing the principles of cooperative economic activity, are riding roughshod over our domestic klondikes. No one can tell the free artels what to do. Since 1983 the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy has been sending papers to Uralzoloto on the desirability of electing a new chief at Pechora. But the artel, obedient to the will of the godfather and his guards, invariably votes for Tumanov. He is indeed the unsinkable leader of the prospectors; after all, Pechora is the sixth artel he had headed. So along with the inviolability of the sacred cooperative property we have the inviolability of wheeler-dealers, thieves, and swindlers who, it seems, cannot be stigmatized.

No, we by no means support shutting down prospectors cooperatives. It would be easy to prescribe that. But after all, we are talking about the fate of 19,000 people who belong to 242 artels. Possibly the poisonous varieties among the cooperative mushrooms need to be pulled out by the roots. But many prospectors collectives can be reliable partners of the state, if they are purged of criminal elements and legality and democratic cooperative procedures are restored in them. Everything will be fine if the gold, that very slippery metal, is mined by people with clean hands.

11176
CSO: 1800/630

AZERBAIJAN: SOCIOLOGIST NOTES PROBLEMS WITH STUDY QUALITY

[Editorial Report] Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian on 5 July 1987 carries on page 2 a 1,200-word article titled "To Become Acquainted With Social Life" by N. Safarov, sociology department head of the Azerbaijan SSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Philosophy and Law. The article addresses serious reprimands which have been leveled at social scientists for not meeting "the demands of the day and the tasks of restructuring." In doing so, Safarov notes that "Unfortunately, up to the present time sociology continues to have a not always well-founded increase in all kinds of facts, figures and indicators, an extraordinary attraction to statistical data which sometimes are not quality indicators" and cites the June 1987 CPSU CC plenum debate on the need for "a key restructuring of our statistics." He goes on to cite the example of a study conducted by sociologists to determine the status of the rural private plot, which asked "modest" questions relating to family size and crops grown that might have been answered with less effort by the agricultural council. He discusses the efficient manner in which other sociology collectives, in particular the republic Center for the Study of Public Opinion and Sociological Research, relay information which is used in party work. In connection with this, however, Safarov states that the process of studying public opinion is not without cost. "Public opinion on topical issues is sometimes studied after corresponding decisions and resolutions which reflect an official position have been accepted at a high party and state level, while the sociological services in the socialist countries have greater experience in the preliminary study of public opinion on these or other socio-political questions."

The author also argues against "unwieldy" questionnaires such as one conducted in cooperation with the Institute of Sociological Research on Soviet people's way of life, which contained 409 questions and required 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 hours to complete. He concludes by laying out the "intensive work" to be done by his newly-formed department, including the need to unite theory with practice in sociological work and to form people's sociological thinking through greater use of the mass media.

/9738

CSO: 1830/609

TUSSR: LETTER NOTES POOR QUALITY OF SPECIAL DIET STORES

Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 13 Mar 87 p 2

[Article by M. Kushnirskaya under the rubric "On the Letter Trail": "When There Is No Concern for the Sick"]

[Text] The attention that has to be accorded sick people is common knowledge. And not only in medical institutions. In this instance we are not talking about medical but about trade services. The fact is that those who are afflicted with such a serious illness as sugar diabetes require special nourishment. This illness, according to the evidence of medical specialists, is still not fully understood, but it has been established that adherence to a nutrition program and a diet help fight this ailment. The diet therapy consists of eliminating products containing sugar and ensuring consumption of proteins, fats and vitamins in the required amounts.

It is not accidental, pursuant to governmental instructions, that a far-flung trade network, a food industry, has been created in the country which specializes in the production of diabetic products. There are also stores of this kind in Ashkhabad. But here is what a group of sick people writes in its letter to the the editor:

"We are registered with store No 36, which is located on Karl Marx Street. We have permits and cards, and twice a year we submit our doctors' certificates there. But we receive almost none of the products that we need. Is it possible that they are going elsewhere? You come on the appointed day, but it is empty there. You ask when there will be meat and other products, and the store manager answers that the stocks have been bought out."

This is indeed a disturbing letter. Here is what a followup by a free-lance correspondent of this newspaper revealed.

A dietary store first and foremost should have dietary baked goods--wheat protein, bran protein, grain "health" breads and medically prescribed small loaves of bread. When I visited store No 36, seven kinds of baked goods were for sale, of which three were dietary. It was easy to see that the bread was stale and that its sale period had expired. The sale period for pastry

offered consumers was extended four times. Of the dietary confections, candy sticks made of xylite and "Shatriya" pastries were being sold. Of the mineral waters, there was only "Ashkhabad."

In violation of trade regulations, holiday selections were made for 8 March which included a product which is contraindicated for a diabetic patient--chocolate bars whose cost, moreover, was one-third the cost of all packaged products.

What is the matter? Well, a product selection list is approved annually for each store which specifies exactly what commodities must always be available for sale. I had hoped to see a unique and special list in the dietary store. Nothing of the kind. Its assortment list, approved by the raypishchetorg [rayon food trade organization], could in no way be distinguished from the others; that is, there is no clear differentiation. It is true that five designations of dietary commodities are envisioned, but specifically what kind is not indicated.

The list does not stipulate the sale of meat, dairy products and eggs. The volume of retail trade is also worked up without taking the specific nature of the store into account.

The local raw material resources of the republic are insufficiently utilized. The Turkmengosagroprom [Turkmen state agricultural industry] does not produce commodities that are necessary for dietary nutrition. The production of canned food has not been set up along the lines of our fraternal republics. The "Udarnik" pastry factory does not manage the plan for the output of dietary pastries and waffles systematically.

Despite its scanty variety, store No 36 does not provide that which is produced locally. For example, the Ashkhabad milk combine has been producing low fat and non-fat milk products for a long time: cottage cheese, milk and kefir. Why are they not available for sale?

Last year the brewery initiated the production of diabetic nonalcoholic beverages. But in response to my question as to why they are not on the shelves, the manager of the store, S. B. Artykova, was genuinely surprised: she had not even heard of such beverages.

I became convinced that the workers of the Soviet raypishchetorg are not concerned with all of these questions. They not only do not check adequately on the availability of the necessary dietary commodities, but they do not check on trade standards either. Here are some examples from the same store. Prices are not shown on individual commodities, and where there are prices, they are smudged. The labels on fruit and vegetable cans are torn. Cereals, sugar, flour are packed in 1- and 2-pound packages. But many people registered with the store, as a rule, are elderly and single. They ask that packages be reduced to 500 and 300 grams.

The TuSSR Mintorg [Ministry of Trade] statement "Basic Laws on Store Operations" indicates that the job of any store is to conduct retail trade in a wide assortment of consumer commodities and to ensure high standards of

consumer services. As is instructed in the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Perfecting Planning, Economic Incentives and Management of of State Trade and Consumer Cooperatives," it is necessary to pay particular attention to increasing the responsibility of managers and trade specialists in improving service to the population and conducting business efficiently.

Unquestionably, the organization of trade in dietary products also has to be looked at from these standpoints. To do this, first and foremost specialists are needed who are responsible for supplying dietary stores. They would be able to arrange close business ties with suppliers of dietary bread and pastry items, dairy products, nonalcoholic beverages and others. Unfortunately, there are no such responsible workers in Ashkhabad's rayon food trade system.

The Ashkhabad city trade administration does not pay proper attention to this question.

Elderly people and labor veterans, who deserve an attentive attitude, frequent dietary stores. Is it not possible to set up several benches near the store where sick people could rest? Because sometimes they have to wait a long time for the delivery of products.

For some reason these stores are also deprived of the attention of the city health department. It is quite possible at least once a week to organize consultations with medical specialists on questions concerning the organization of nutrition.

It is not only in Ashkhabad, but in other cities and villages of the republic as well, that the supply of dietary commodities is not organized in the best way. A collective complaint to the editorial office by residents of the state farm tekhnikum "40 Years of the VLKSM [komsomol]" of the Kirovskiy Rayon reports that a black bread diet is recommended for persons sick with sugar diabetes; that is, bread made of scoured wheat or rye flour. But the rayon bakery cooperative does not bake this kind of bread, and it is not brought in from Tedzhen either. It is also poorly supplied with other products that sick people need.

Unfortunately, for the time being it is not possible to report anything comforting to the authors of this letter. As was said by M. Mollayev, chief of the administration of the organization and technology of trade of the Turkmenpotrebsoyuz [Turkmen consumers' association], there are no special stores or sections for the sale of products to persons with sugar diabetes in the consumer cooperative system of the republic. As for the baking of black bread, as it is called by residents of the state farm tekhnikum, we cite elequent figures on this account. Last year 2,250 tons of bread were baked in the Kirovskiy Rayon, and of this, only 47.9 tons of items were made of scoured wheat flour; that is, 2 percent. No bread at all was made of scoured rye flour.

In a word, readers, those who sent letters to the editor are correct. Not everything is going well in one of the important sectors of the population's trade services.

13052
CSO: 1830/540

IZVESTIYA EXAMINES ESP PHENOMENA, CALLS FOR FURTHER STUDY

Boy-Linked Spontaneous Combustion Cases

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Apr 87 p 7

[Article by I. Lisovenko, IZVESTIYA staff correspondent, Donetsk Oblast: "A Fire at...One's Own Wish?"; first two paragraphs are source introduction]

[Text] A few days ago, members of the militia turned for help to scientists--chemists, physicists, biologists and medical specialists of the UkSSR Academy of Sciences. They asked for an explanation of the phenomenon of Sasha K., a 7th-year pupil. What was the matter? The fact is that since November of last year objects have been catching fire seemingly by themselves in places where Sasha happens to be present. Absurd? Let us not hurry with conclusions.

We decided to talk about this not for the sake of sensationalism: the events at Yenakiyevo provoked the most improbable talk throughout all Donbas. Rumors sprang up, one being more improbable than the other. For this reason we decided to describe the facts, even if not all of them can be unequivocally explained at this time.

I make the acquaintance of Sasha's mother. Alla Valdimirovna is a teacher of Russian at the same school where her 13-year old son studies.

"Help me," the woman says with tears in her eyes. "Everything has already been burned in our apartment. We live in constant fear: when I go to sleep, my husband stays up. If my husband and Sasha sleep, then I don't sleep. We are afraid of being incinerated, we are afraid of burning down the entire multistory building..."

It all began last fall. Glass was broken in the apartment. While the entrance aperture of the inner pane resembled a hole from a slingshot, the outer pane, the size of a 5-kopeck coin, was without cracks. And in such a way as if someone had carefully cut it out with a cutting torch and fused the edges. That same day electrical problems began. The refrigerator, the television set or table lamp would go on, then without a reason be turned off....

The summoned electrician clearly could not provide a logical explanation for this "electromysticism."

On 23 November at 8:30 in the morning, smoke suddenly appeared in the corridor: a felt covering started to burn on the floor, the insulating padding on the entrance door caught fire. "Mama, we are on fire!" Sasha cried. The two of them started to put out the fire! The next day the oilcloth on the balcony caught fire. Then the rosettes, the stool and the newspapers burst into flame....

"Sashenka, I asked my son," Alla Valdimirvona says, "confess, did you possibly with some children bring some chemicals into the house? Perhaps some stranger played a joke? But my son only cried... I absolutely could no longer understand anything," Anna Valdimirovna complained when one day on placing the laundry in the washing machine she saw it start to catch fire.

There have already been nine fires in this apartment. Putting them out brought firemen, and nearby neighbors, simply good people came. But all those who helped put out the fire were not specialists in supernatural force. Putting out a fire--okay. But talking about sources of "spontaneous combustion"--count them out....

"I make a good living," the father of the family says with bitterness. "We were hoping to buy an automobile this year, but now we are absolute displaced fire victims."

The family decided to move out of the apartment to the place of Alla Vladimirovna's father, a pensioner, and wait for things to blow over. And then....

"I was washing floors that day and stretched out a rag near the wall for the purpose of drying it out," Sasha's grandmother, Lyudmila Mikhaylovna, says. "And then suddenly I saw that my rose-colored rag was charring and smoke was issuing from it.

"Oh, Grandmother, we are on fire," Sasha cried.

And in this house, rugs, paper, furniture started to burn. A fire would break out the next day or two days later. Now with a water hose, they stand watch in the empty house. All their furniture, clothing and books were put out in the yard.

I saw these belongings and listened to a neighbor's opinion:

"You don't want to believe it, but you cannot not believe. It's a kind of devil's work. If I did not know to whom this was happening, I would have thought that they were doing something chemically ["khimichat"] for the sake of getting a large amount of insurance. But the fact is that their belongings are not insured and they are honest people. We have lived 30 years as neighbors. Everyone says: the boy is to blame...."

This idea that Sasha was the cause of it all was repeated everywhere.

"Sasha visited us. We were playing with him. Suddenly I look and see that my fur halfcoat is burning, and the scarf and hat," Natasha Dubenko, Sasha's cousin, says. Another time, he changed clothing at our place. He took off the school uniform's trousers, hung them on a chair, and they burst into flame. I am just afraid to let him in the house!"

In the same way, Sasha's new beloved jeans, which his mother brought from Moscow, burned; his shirts and books also caught fire.... And once, right at the time of the English lesson at school, there was a thick cloud of smoke, his grade book caught fire, the notebooks charred, and the top of the attache case ["diplomat"], of which he was very proud, lost its shape. The teacher and Sasha's fellow pupils, all helped to put out the fire in his case. Since Sasha was found to have the "fire-making gift," the same thing has happened everywhere.

"They add up to more than a hundred cases," Sasha's father, Nikolay Pavlovich, says bitterly. "People now fear us."

The family turned everywhere seeking help. Alla Vldimirovna even took a trip to the Ministry of Internal Affairs. An investigation is now in progress. Sasha has been placed in a hospital for examination.

We turned to a number of specialists with a request to provide comments on this unusual story.

Vladimir Prikhodchenko is chief physician of Donetsk Oblast Children's Clinical Hospital. "Although at the hospital, the clothing of Sasha's neighbor in the ward was incinerated, we physicians do not believe that the boy has some extraordinary trait. A well-known psychiatrist, Professor Ye.A. Shcherbin, whom we invited for consultation, also made an identical diagnosis--'neurotic reactions with pyromania.' That the boy has a pathological fondness for fire is indirectly confirmed by the fact that near the clothing burned in the ward... burned matches were found."

In short, such is our conclusion: a comprehensive psychiatric examination is needed of this child, making it possible to dot all the "i's." Then it will be possible to carry out a purposeful and effective treatment.

Vyacheslav Chernov, a lieutenant colonel in the militia, is chief of the Yenakiyevo City Department of Internal Affairs. "Our department understandably does not believe in any mysticism. We need motives, facts and proof. The case of Sasha K. is in the hands of two experienced personnel--investigators of the city's department of militia Captain N. Kurdov and Senior Lieutenant L. Skurat. Knowing what tremendous interest among the population of Donbas has been caused by this case, our comrades approached it with great care: many witnesses were examined, various material items of proof have been collected. We have a great deal, but we do not quite possibly have the main thing--admission by the individual who by reason of illness, desire or for any cause whatsoever set the fire. Our task is to determine his personality, and we shall do this within a very short time. Today he is only under suspicion, and this is not enough."

Doctor of Chemical Sciences Anatoliy Popov, the director of the Donetsk Institute of Physico-Organic Chemistry and Coal Chemistry. "Two of our colleagues--N. Mironenko and V. Garkusha-Bozhko--have carefully investigated those objects which underwent 'spontaneous combustion,' and whose origin they had to explain.

"Today dozens of spontaneous-combustion methods exist that are simple in a chemical sense. In the burned remains of the attache case, the chair's upholstery as well as the woman's dress turned over to the institute for an expert examination, the remains were found of one such spontaneous-combustion chemical compound. On the other hand, the ashes are clean in other cases. Thus we have no grounds whatsoever to categorically state that the fires are set with the help of a chemical and furthermore that all of them were set by Sasha. The boy needs to be examined and only then can we make any final conclusions."

So we shall have to wait. And when all the studies (and the militia's investigation) will have been completed, we shall tell the readers of the subsequent fate of the 7th-year pupil Sasha, whose last name and exact address we do not provide for understandable reasons.

Attempts at Explanations

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 May 87 p 6

[Article by L. Ivchenko, IZVESTIYA special correspondent, and N. Lisovenko, IZVESTIYA staff correspondent, Donetsk-Moscow: "The Yenakiyevo 'Wonder'--What Scientists Think of It"; first paragraph is source introduction]

[Text] Following publication of the material "Fire... at One's Own Wish" (IZVESTIYA, No 101) the telephones in the editorial office did not stop ringing for several days. Let us recall that they dealt with the fact that since November of last year fires would somehow start their own accord in dwellings where the Yenakiyevo schoolboy Sasha K. appeared. The opinions and conjectures of readers were most varied: from assertions that the K. family consisted of clever hoaxers (although one would have to think as to why should they arrange a hellish life for themselves) to assurances that beings from other planets were involved here, to proof that new examples were being presented, one wilder than the other, but the majority pelted us with questions: what was going on anyway? And what were the real causes of what was happening?

We were just as interested. The editorial office invited Sasha K. with his mother to Moscow so that medical specialists and scientists could look into this. Especially since coworkers of the parents of the "dangerous fire boy" (some were witnesses) of the events requested it: "We earnestly ask you to help the family... in examining the child and the apartment in which conditions at this time do not exist not only for a teacher's work but even for staying there," teachers of the school where Sasha's mother teaches wrote us. "The family is in a very grievous moral state...." And here is a letter from miner A. Markov, secretary of the primary party organization of the sectors where the teenager's father works as a coal cutter: "Some fires

occurred in the presence of firemen and the militia. But no one can determine the cause. And recently even more improbable things have happened. Electric bulbs blew up throughout the entire apartment, even those that were not screwed into a socket, and an open bottle with vinegar exploded, breaking a window. This I personally saw. Furthermore, my right slipper flew from the door through the entire corridor into a kitchen window.... A three folding-door case jumps up and down, the washing machine turns upside down. Regardless of what authorities the residents of the ill-fated apartment turn to, no one believes them, and they look upon it as something planned for their benefit. But in my opinion, the smallest scientific associate is just as competent to explain the natural phenomena as the biggest chief...."

So here we have the first answer: the boy is mentally sound. Such is the conclusion of a commission of specialists at the Scientific-Research Institute of Clinical Psychiatry of the All-Union Scientific-Center of Mental Health of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences: "At the time of the examination no psychopathological disturbances of any kind were found in the patient. No indications exist for an inpatient examination." So, does that mean that he is not a "pyromaniac?" And not a phenomenon possessing any special psychophysical properties--this is confirmed at the Department of Theoretical Problems of the USSR Academy of Sciences, one of whose laboratories is engaged in erecting mathematical models of complex systems, including "transcending" activities of the brain, that is, those beyond the limits of our ordinary perceptions. But then how can the happenings in the "strange apartment" be explained?

The scientists themselves acknowledge that this is not easy, although phenomena of the likes of the "Yenakiyev wonder" turn out to be not that few. In Moscow Oblast alone, there has been a whole series of such events.

"Similar cases are known, they have been described in our country and abroad," Doctor of Physico-Mathematical Sciences E. Andriankin, director of the Department of Theoretical Problems, says. "They were specifically dealt with in issue No 3, March 1982 of the monthly American journal TNIER (Transactions of the Institute of Engineers in Electronics and Radioelectronics). It is being translated into the Russian language. Even the name they gave it: "poltergeist," when translated from the German, means play of spirits. Their manifestations are quite similar: falling and throwing of objects, occasionally their 'spontaneous combustion.' But something else is characteristic: almost no one has seen the start of the activities but everyone has seen just the result. Consequently, one of the versions could be the hypothesis of our colleague V. Isakov: 'momentary hypnosis' into which a person is plunged of his own accord or is plunged by someone around him. At such a moment, a person can unconsciously perform instant muscular work in which it would appear an inordinate amount of energy is expended and then immediately reenter his ordinary state. This in some cases can explain throwing, pushing and extremely rapid movement of objects."

"Even such 'unliftable' objects for a single man such as a refrigerator, cabinet or washing machine?"

"If a task is set, the brain is obliged to fulfill it, the author of the hypothesis explains. And in an optimal way: it automatically works out an appropriate algorithm for its performance. And work under impulsive conditions is so effective that sometimes it is simply astounding. It is more difficult to explain fires."

"In such cases, you cannot exclude the worldly personal interest of some one of the participants in the events or in his surroundings," E. Andriankin believes. "We assume that neither Sasha nor his parents are to blame here. But probably this would have required the participation of a second party responsible for the event."

"And what do you think of the geophysical origin of such a phenomenon? Some observers see a connection between it and anomalous atmospheric phenomena, ball lightning--many identical manifestations have been observed among them."

"I believe that many geophysical factors of the environment contribute to the creation of conditions for such a phenomenon. Although its full manifestation requires special psychophysical qualities on the part of people, that is, a combination of reasons is required."

But such "psychophysical qualities" are needed for electric fuses to fly out with force (they cannot be reached without a stepladder) and even unlit electric bulbs, bottles, jars with different contents have exploded?--this question gave us no rest. And how did the round hole appear in the window glass--which is also something frequently encountered in such phenomena?

Here are comments on the Yenakiyevo incident of Professor M. Dmitriyev, doctor of chemical sciences, chief of the laboratory of physico-chemical and radiological research of the Scientific-Research Institute of General and Municipal Hygiene imeni A.N. Sysin of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences:

"We believe the cause to be deconcentrated ball lightning. This is not necessarily a luminous globe which many think of as the consequence of forked lightning observed at the time of an electrical storm. Actually most ball lightning is not related to forked lightning and is a blob of matter that is concentrated from the atmospheric air. There is also black lightning, but it is difficult to see it, although eyewitnesses have seen it during the day and photographed it. Ball lightning is not necessarily entirely the electricity of which it is made up, it may not even carry a large charge."

"Thus in the given instance, the effect of such lightning did occur, and it deconcentrated and was transformed into gas. It can remain in such a state for a rather long time. When absorption took place, that is, absorption of matter of surrounding materials, burning of objects occurred. Ball lightning is capable of exploding with terrific force and moving objects. The spreading charge burns electrical and telephone wires, blows out fuses and so forth. Our laboratory, which is engaged in the study of various physico-chemical processes in the environment, including the nature of lightning, has observed many such manifestations of it. So there is nothing supernatural in the

'Yenakiyevo wonder.' Neither the boy nor the family is to blame. They are victims of the happening, as a result of which they have become displaced fire victims."

"And what will happen next?"

"Nothing. The strange things will cease of their own accord. And one should not be sorry for the burned belongings: an encounter with black lightning rarely takes place so harmlessly...."

Let us not undertake to judge which of these versions is true, especially since others exist. (We hope that other scientists will also speak up). It is very important that they completely remove the guilt from the residents of the "strange apartment." But how much these people, whose innocence and honesty only their neighbors and coworkers believed in, have had to endure! At the militia to whom they have turned for help, a criminal case is being initiated against the actual fire victims. They encounter distrust everywhere: if there is a fire, that means you set it, if things fly about, that means you throw them. No one can explain anything to skeptics, likewise to investigate occurrences while the scent is hot: "lofty science" does not stoop for such trifles. In order to provide some sort of intelligible explanation of what has occurred, it is necessary to reexamine, to "shake up" at the location each fact, to analyze the conditions in the apartment (the K. husband and wife complain about a specific odor which has appeared in it, a specific and identical odor of burning which could not have originated with the burned objects).

When a scientific associate of V. Isakov's department was sent to the site of the happening, the "Yenakiyevo case" became more complicated and by that time had become still more confusing and mysterious. Inscriptions began to appear on walls with threats--it was possible to cut out some of them with the wallpaper and to preserve them. It seems that someone was trying to aggravate the "unstable" situation. (It still remains to be ascertained who found this necessary and why. We shall inform readers of the results.) The frightened residents fled from their own burned, ravaged and once loved apartment: voices and visions have already appeared to them (incidentally, such cases are described in the foreign literature). But the head of the family was recently placed in a hospital.

Look how everything has turned out in Yenakiyevo. Incidentally, some specialists think that due to the general contamination of the atmosphere "wonders" comparable to those of Yenakiyevo will become more frequent. To whom should people turn to in such cases? And who will finally seriously investigate these phenomena? Is it possible that there will again be only enthusiasts, public-spirited persons as up to now?

7697

CSO: 1800/643

LATVIAN DEMONSTRATION AT FREEDOM MONUMENT DESCRIBED

Riga LITERATURA UN MAKSLA in Latvian 19 Jun 87 p 2

[Article by Maris Chaklays under the rubric "Editor's Column": no title provided]

I saw a small pile of photographs depicting the events of June 14 at the Freedom Monument on the desk of photocorrespondent Uldis Briedis. They stirred up many thoughts in me, and I want to share some of them with you.

In the early 80's, I wrote in a poem: "Only a thin belt keeps you from flying away into the sky. But if you do fly away into the sky, we would be short of three stars."

The three stars of the Freedom Monument shine over our everyday life, our problems, troubles, and joys, in other words, over our socialist reality.

In the past, with a heavy heart, many Riga residents accepted the awkward, overcrowded trolley-bus terminal at the monument, and were glad when it was removed. With satisfaction the people welcomed the restoration of the monument, and the stars began to shine with a new brightness.

The time has come long ago for this work of art by Karlis Zale, which brings joy to hundreds of thousands of Riga's guests every year, as well as to Riga's residents, to be seen on postcards with all of its beauty of detail and texture. The time has come to read a scientifically supported and artistically bright book about both the monument and Karlis Zale. In the anticipation of the 100-year anniversary of the artist's birth, this is in fact being done, and a monograph dedicated to the artist has been put on the publishing house schedule.

The wide space around the Freedom Monument has seldom been used in recent years for mass events. Therefore it was a surprise, but at the same time it was not, that on June 13 and 14 here, at the foot of the monument, the first People's Bicycle Sport celebration took place. To be more precise, this is where the center of the celebration was: it started at the Freedom Monument with speeches by the leaders of Riga, and here was also the finish.

So, back to the photographs of Uldis Briedis ... You see young dancers participating in a dance presentation included in the framework of the cultural program. And you see the Red Rifleman Yekabs Damburgs giving the opening speech. And you also see the third picture, taken already after the celebration was over: four elderly men laying down flowers on a previously laid out banner with the words "In Memory of the Victims of June 14."

At Bastion Hill, men of the same age were explaining to the people who had assembled there earlier, both to those who obviously had come on purpose and to those who were curious onlookers, that the date means June 14, 1941, the day of exile. The day, to which the "History of the Latvian SSR" in its second volume (Riga, "Zinatne," 1986) devoted only one paragraph.

In this paragraph, among other things E. Zhagars writes: "During this action, which occurred in a great hurry, some errors were made. Many persons who were hostile toward Soviet power were not exiled, and on the other hand, among those exiled were such persons against whom the use of such means was unnecessary."

Years have passed, socialism has been victorious in Latvia, and the humane nature of the victor allows him to treat generously the other man's personal pain or the memory of a relative, even if this man has chosen the wrong way. No obstacles prevented the laying of flowers or singing the songs.

Let it remain on the conscience of the mourners how much they were listening to the calls of their hearts and how much to the calls of the "Voice of America" and "Free Europe." Obviously, the desired effect, such as conflict, clashes, and incidents, did not materialize, and so on the third picture, the militia man in the background is looking calmly and peacefully at what is going on.

The course of the Art Days has shown how small our skill is of delivering to the wide masses, for whom in the long run all this, the avantgardist concepts and artistic intentions, is being created.. On the other hand, the events of June 14 make one think that whatever has been concealed will sooner or later become a drama. I've heard as much, more than one semi-punk, who of course considers himself to be a democrat, thinks, for example, that May 15 "has something to do with Latvia." Certainly, it does, the reactionary coup of May 15, 1934 leveled the parliamentary system that had existed in bourgeois Latvia for one-and-a-half decades to the ground.

And where can the young people learn all this from? From history books? Where are these books? From literary works? Where are they?

We can continue to ask these questions: Where is the history of the Latvian Rifleman Division, the Kurzeme encirclement chronicle, and the novel about Liepaya defense?

I already hear the objections: "Very few documents have survived. Many things we cannot even determine." Yes and no. There are some events which do not become less important, and which must be dealt with even after a hundred years. One must take into consideration the class, social, and national

situation, and deal with these events. There are no documents? We have the great achievement of the 20th century: the tape recorder, which has been so successfully used by our brothers, the Belorussian writers, in their attempt to recall the stern period of their people's history.

I once called for the use of this device with regard to the Riflemen, but in the same way it can be used with the participants (and adversaries) and witnesses of the great historic changes of the 40's. Their testimony will be invaluable on the future and, as we can see, not only in the future but already today.

When I see the Freedom Monument, I often remember the photograph made in October 1944, which shows the Latvian Riflemen Corps marching into Riga and at the foot of the monument being greeted by the leaders of the Latvian Communist Party and government.

Those who would like to squeeze the idea of the monument "To Motherland and Freedom" into a narrow framework or use it as nostalgia for something that is past, were out of luck again.

Today, as I was coming back home from work, a bird was sitting on one of the monument's stars. A live bird on a live monument.

13355

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UZBEK WRITERS DISCUSS REGIONAL ALLIANCE TO SAVE ARAL SEA

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 30 Apr 67. p. 3

[Article by V. Magay, PRAVDA VOSTOKA correspondent, Tashkent: "The Fate of the Aral Sea: Comments on a Meeting of the Uzbek Writers Union"]

[Text] For thousands of years the Aral Sea was fed by the waters of the Syrdarya and the Amudarya rivers. But now this huge sea has no inflow. Its previous shoreline is receding farther and farther from the water's edge, exposing the hulks of barges, fishing boats and launches wired forever on its sandy bottom...

It has been a long time since any fish were caught there, even though literally within mine and my readers' memories the Aral Sea yielded 11 (eleven) percent of the entire Soviet commercial catch. Each year more and more fishermen and members of other professions dependent in one way or another on the sea move away. The population of Muynak has declined by a factor of five over the past decade.

Could anyone have predicted that the Muynak Fish Canning Combine would one day be processing frozen fish from the Atlantic Ocean? Today this has already become a reality.

"The fur farms of the Amudarya Delta once collected as many as one million muskrat hides each year," said V. Kovalev, candidate of geological and mineralogical sciences, speaking at the meeting. "Today that figure is smaller by a factor of 250. This means huge losses of hard currency income."

Nature was swift to react to the dessication of the sea. When the shores of the sea had shifted by 20-70 kilometers, and in some places by as much as 100 kilometers, the area surrounding the sea began to be intensively desertified.

"Currently the area of desertification covers two million hectares," reported E. Yusupov, vice-president of the UzSSR Academy of Sciences. "It is predicted that by the year 2000 this figure will increase by another million hectares. And all because the soil is gradually losing its moisture and, consequently, its protective vegetative cover. The destructive force of wind is intensified. The number of dust storms in the Aral Sea region has increased from between five and six per year to between nine and 12 per year."

What are dust storms? That is when, along with sand and dust, hundreds of tons of salt left dry by the receding waters are thrown up into the air.

As the level of the Aral Sea has fallen, so has the water level in artesian wells. Hundreds of wells have dried up in many cities and villages. Their drinking water must now be trucked in from other places.

"As a physicist, I would like to draw your attention one fact," emphasized G. Umarov, corresponding member of the UzSSR Academy of Sciences, "Previously the body of water in the Aral Sea annually absorbed a quantity of solar energy equivalent to seven billion tons of standard fuel. And 40 percent of that energy was stored, thanks to which the micro-climate of this huge region could be maintained. But now we are gradually losing not only the sea, but also energy, a source of heat."

What Umarov was referring to is a unique thermal regulator. Air currents from the west, mingling with the heat radiated by the Aral Sea and forming clouds, rise to tremendous heights and thus reach the mountain peaks of the Pamir region without difficulty, there to fall in the form of snow. Without the Aral Sea, in the opinion of E. Yusupov and other scientists, rains will begin to fall primarily somewhere in the Kyzylkum Desert, and this will undoubtedly have an effect on the water level in the Amudarya and the Syrdarya.

In the mid-1970's the USSR Council of Ministers State Committee for Science and Technology set up a commission to evaluate the effect of changes in the level of water in the Aral Sea on the environment and economy of the surrounding region. Scientists and specialists from Moscow, Leningrad, Alma-Ata, Tashkent and Nukus spent several months working on the problem. Their conclusion was as follows: between 1961 and 1974 a total of 84 billion cubic meters of water were used for irrigation purposes in the Aral Basin, and water diverted into the Sarykamyshskaya and Arnasayskaya depressions, which have no outflow, and unproductive losses from the Karakum Canal amounted to a total of 100 billion cubic meters. In other words, economical utilization of this precious moisture would make it possible to create substantial reserves to help maintain the water level in the Aral Sea. At the Chardara Reservoir, for example, in flood season tremendous masses of water are poured into the Arnasayskaya Depression instead of being allowed to flow downriver to the Aral Sea. This has caused the formation of a lake more than 200 kilometers long and up to 30 kilometers wide. This lake contains approximately 40 cubic kilometers of water from reservoir overflow and irrigation drainage. That is 10 cubic kilometers less than the volume of the Sarykamyshskaya Depression, in which the runoff from the fields of Khorezemsкая Oblast and Tashauz collect in the Druzhba Reservoir.

Would it be possible to divert this water into the Aral Sea? Experts feel that the answer to this question is yes. In order to do so, it would be necessary to build a bypass canal or spillway.

The meeting also addressed the need to take serious steps in connection with the Karakum Canal, which holds the record for evaporation and seepage. From the Kelif Uzboi [relict desert valley] this canal flows hundreds of kilometers through thirsty sands. One solution would be to line the canal with concrete

or to reinforce the soil beneath it. But the present situation is completely intolerable. According to experts' observations, the water level in the Aral Sea began to fall intensively only after the amount of water lost through seepage along the Karakum Canal began to increase.

The scientists and writers were in agreement: this question should not be posed as an either/or decision -- either irrigation-based agriculture or the Aral Sea. The question should be posed in a different fashion: how do we keep both irrigated lands and the Aral Sea? We have quite a few untapped resources for doing just that. It is a well-known fact that today over one-half of the water resources of the Amudarya and Syrdarya are being lost through seepage, excessive watering and runoff at the dead ends of numerous canals and irrigation systems. Quite simply, the problem is local wastefulness. However, not everyone agreed with this formulation of the problem.

"I was born here, I know all the rayons and oblasts, and I have never seen puddles of water or improper utilization of irrigation water by cotton growers anywhere," said U. R. Umarbekov, chairman of the board of the republic Writers Union. "I absolutely cannot agree with that opinion."

Unfortunately, that does not seem to be the case. All one need do is take a look at the reports submitted by people's control organs; each year these detail scandalous instances of a barbaric attitude toward water use in almost all regions of our republic. As a result of this attitude, thousands of hectares of land are damaged and remain agriculturally unviable for long periods of time. And in order to make a piece of salinated land usable once again, the cost per hectare increases by a factor of 10.

The problem of how to save the Aral Sea, where each year a one-meter thick layer of water continues to evaporate with catastrophic results, has given rise to quite a few ideas. In the opinion of E. Yusupov, for example, it is necessary to build a canal from the Caspian Sea to the Aral Sea across the Ustyurt Plateau. The water level of the Caspian Sea has risen by three or four meters on account of inflow from the ocean. Would this much water restore the Aral Sea's previous shoreline? Unfortunately not. But it would make it possible to slow down the destruction of that unique body of water.

At the meeting there was an attempt to revive the idea of redirecting part of the flow of Siberian rivers. This program, which was halted as more knowledge was gained, was never supposed to have any bearing on the Aral Sea in any event. Nevertheless, it was the scientists who were the first to bring up this idea, stating that there were essentially no experts among those who had been opposed to the redirection idea.

"I feel," said G. Ya. Umarov, "that we must consider this question again."

I would like to remind these esteemed scientists of an address by Sergey Zalygin to the 8th Congress of the USSR Writers Union, in which he stated: "Three divisions of the USSR Academy of Sciences have completely rejected the need to divert a portion of the water in Siberian rivers..."

Not writers, but rather entire divisions of our national academy have taken a clear-cut stance on this issue. As for the Aral Sea, there are in fact quite a few questions on which I would also like to hear a scientifically-grounded opinion from our republic's scientific community. Speakers noted that during the current five-year plan there are plans to put 600,000 hectares of new land into agricultural production in Karakalpak ASSR and other oblasts in our republic. What effect will this have on the condition of the sea, already drying up on account of the amount of land currently in production? Do we need to put these lands into production? Is this not the extensive path of development, a path which has been condemned?

Of course, this threat to the very existence of a basin which has already ceased to function biologically did not arise in a single day. It is the result of an unprecedented scale of extensive agriculture during the 1960's. The consequences of that are well known. On the Golodnaya Steppe the ground water level lay between 40 and 60 meters underground prior to that area's agricultural development. Subsequently, almost the entire underground capacity of the Golodnaya Steppe gradually began to fill up with water. And in many places land which yielded enviable harvests during the first years has begun to lose its fertility over time.

But no one wanted to admit their mistakes. On the contrary, those who attempted to address those mistakes were virtually accused of betraying their Fatherland, even though everyone knew the reason why many sovkhoses in virgin-land regions were yielding only five or six hundredweights of cotton per hectare. Money, chemical fertilizers, irrigation water and human labor were expended, yet still all that grew on huge fields were a few sparse cotton plants. People threw up their hands in despair and lost their faith. Considering that, should it come as any surprise that they do not settle permanently in the virgin lands?

The proponents of the laissez-faire solution have had their turn, and today, as one participant in the meeting aptly noted, we are having to pay for someone else's "golden" years. The "worn-out" expanses of the Golodnaya, Dzhizakskaya and Karshinskaya steppes mean thousands of tons of cotton which exist only on paper. This are the fate of the Aral Sea, which is difficult to predict today.

At the meeting an action committee of the UzSSR Writers Union to save the Aral Sea was elected. P. Shermukhamedov was recommended as its chairman.

What this committee will be able to accomplish depends to a great extent on the positions taken by its members. Will they prove worthy of our trust? We would like to hope so.

There was agreement that a joint session of the publicity councils of the USSR Writers Union and UzSSR Writers Union will be held this year on the subject of problems of the Aral Sea, this session to include a trip to the Aral Sea and other areas connected with it. But why not pool the efforts of our writers and scientists with those in Kazakhstan and Turkmenia, as they obviously have an equal stake in the fate of the Aral Sea? It is always easier to overcome difficulties by working together. All the more so since what is at issue is

the creation of a special fund to save the Aral Sea; it will require a decision by the national government to establish such a fund.

Of course, a fund is not our only area of common interest. The Aral Sea was shored up by the July rains that fell on the virgin lands of Kazakhstan, the Aral Sea helped cool the huge irrigated region of Turkmenia. Experts are of the opinion that the dessication of the Aral Sea will result in changes in the climatic conditions not only of Central Asia and northern Kazakhstan, but also of the Volga region and Western Siberia as well. Once again, evidence that any disturbance of the ecological balance results in serious consequences.

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